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Britannica Curiosa:

O R,

A DESCRIPTION

OF THE

ISLAND of GREAT BRITAIN.

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CHURCH

THE

BRITISH MUSEUM

A DISCOVERY



OF THE

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Britannica Curiosa:  
O R,  
A DESCRIPTION  
OF THE MOST REMARKABLE  
CURIOSITIES,  
NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL,  
OF THE  
I S L A N D  
O F  
GREAT BRITAIN,  
IN THE SEVERAL  
COUNTIES, CITIES, TOWNS, VILLAGES, &c.  
T H E  
Principal SEATS of the NOBILITY and GENTRY,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PLACES of RESORT and  
ENTERTAINMENT, &c. &c.  
IN SIX VOLUMES.

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THE SECOND EDITION.

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Illustrated with Fifty-nine COPPER PLATES.

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V O L. IV.

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M DCC LXXVII.

BRITANNICA CURIOLO

A DESCRIPTION

OF THE MOST REMARKABLE

CURIOUSITIES

NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL

OF THE

ISLAND

OF GREAT BRITAIN

BY JOHN HENRY COLEMAN

Author of the 'Description of the

Islands of the Channel



THE SECOND EDITION

WITH AN ADDITIONAL

CHAPTER ON THE

ANTHROPOLOGY

OF GREAT BRITAIN

AND IRELAND

LONDON

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C U R I O S I T I E S,  
N A T U R A L A N D A R T I F I C I A L,  
O F T H E  
I S L A N D  
O F  
G R E A T B R I T A I N.

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M I D L A N D C I R C U I T.

L E I C E S T E R S H I R E,

**I**S an inland county, of a form almost circular. It is bounded by Lincolnshire and Rutlandshire on the east; Northamptonshire on the south; Warwickshire on the west; and Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire on the north. The military way, called Watling-street, divides it from Warwickshire, and the two rivers, Welland and Avon the Less, part it from Northamptonshire. It lies in the diocese of Lincoln, is thirty-three miles long, twenty-eight broad, and an hundred in circumference, and contains

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#### 4 LEICESTERSHIRE.

contains five hundred and sixty thousand acres, or six hundred and ninety-five square miles. It sends four members to parliament, viz. two knights for the shire, and two burgessees for the town of Leicester. Its air is sweet and wholesome, being a distance from the sea, and free from the fogs and bogs of Lincolnshire.

This county is every where plentifully watered. Its chief river is the *Soure* or *Sour*, anciently called the *Leise*, which rising with a broad head on the east side of the county, runs with a broad current through all the rest of it, into the river Trent, receiving in its passage the *Soure* and the *Wreke*, which runs through a deep narrow vale like a trough, and being encreased by the *Eye*, and divers other nameless streams, waters the whole hundred of Framland, most of the hundred of East Goscote, and falls into the *Sour* near Cossington. The western part is watered with the two head branches of the river *Auke*, which runs from hence into Warwickshire, and the north parts of West Goscote hundred have the advantage of the river Trent.

These rivers supply the county with many sorts of fish; particularly the best sort of salmon, which come into the *Soure* from the Trent; and they are convenient for navigation, and for exporting or importing of corn, wood, coal and other commodities.

There are many different soils in this county, varying according to the situation of its different parts. The south-west is rich and plentiful, but is destitute of fuel, that the inhabitants are obliged to burn straw, cow-dung, &c. In this part, however, where are fine meadows bordering upon the *Avon*, a sort of Cheese is made, which passes with some for that made in Warwickshire: indeed its taste is not much inferior, especially when kept  
some



some time, but it is not quite so fat. The north-east part of it, particularly so much as lies about the river Wreke, is for the most part barren, mountainous and rocky, yet it affords plenty of wood, and pit-coals, and feeds a vast number of sheep, which afford a good sort of wool.

In the north-west and south-east parts the soil is good, apt to bear corn and grass, and sufficiently provided with fuel; so that upon the whole, though this is not the most plentiful of counties, yet it cannot be said to want any of the conveniencies of life.

Wheat, barley, and oats are produced here in plenty; but its chief and most natural crops are beans; especially in that part of Sparkingho hundred, which lies about the village denominated from thence *Barton in the Beans*, where they are so luxuriant, that towards harvest time, the fields have a resemblance to a forest. The Norfolkians are not fonder of Dumplings, than the Leicestrians are of beans; which, though they are in other counties only food for horses and hogs, unless eaten when they are green, in this they are esteemed good all the year round. Perhaps they are more tender and sweet here than they are in other places, for this reason, that in the very nature of things, viz. that where any grain thrives best it is always the sweetest and wholesomest of its kind.

The people have not only a pleasure in the eating of beans, but a great profit in the sale of them to their neighbours, who indeed deride them by the name of *Bean Bellies*, and have a proverb, which says,

“ Shake a Leicestershire man by the collar, and you shall hear the beans rattle in his belly.”

The yeomen smile at what is said to rattle in their bellies, while they are convinced that good coin rings in their pockets.

The



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The manufactures in this county are but few; Stockings is the chief, which has been greatly encouraged within late years. Fuel which is prodigiously wanted, especially in the inland counties, is here supplied by a very rich coal-mine, and a place called Coal Orton, from which it is vended at an easy rate to the neighbouring counties.

The sheep fed here are of the Lincolnshire breed, somewhat bigger than those of Cambridge and Norfolk; and the county is pretty well stocked with deer in the several parks. Great numbers, nay the chief part of the gentry here, are farmers and graziers, and farms let in this county at a considerable rate.

The horses bred in Leicestershire, or rather fed there, are the largest in this kingdom, being generally the black sort, for the coach and dray, of which great numbers are sent up to London. The other counties have within a few years come greatly into this trade, yet this county still affords the greatest supply.

The direct road from London to Leicester, goes through part of Buckinghamshire, and enters this county at

*Harborough*, eighty-three miles and an half from London. It is a great thoroughfare town, situated near the head of the river Welland. Its ancient name is said to have been Haverburg; and it was famous in *Camden's* time for its beast fair. It is remarked of this town, that it has no fields or lands belonging to it, so that they have a proverb here, "That a goose will eat up all the grafs growing in Harborough; and children are threatened with being thrown into Harborough field." For this reason their fair is kept in the next parish.

*Leicester*, ninety-nine miles from London, is the chief town in the county, and the only one that sends members to parliament. Its name is derived from

from its situation upon the river Soure, anciently called the *Leir*, and *Cester*, i. e. a city or castle on the river *Leir*. The town was considerable in the time of the Romans, and is the *Ragæ Coritanorium* of Antoninus. The trace of the Roman wall is discoverable without much difficulty, especially in the gardens about Senvy gate, with a ditch, which is still to be seen. These walls were repaired in 914 by Edelfleda, a noble Saxon lady, after which it flourished greatly, and is said to have had thirty-two parish churches. The inhabitants joining in rebellion with the Earl of Leicester, against Henry II. that King besieged and took the town, dismantled the castle, and threw down the walls: the citizens were some of them fined, others banished, and some fled for sanctuary to St. Alban's and Edmund's Bury. It remained thus in ruins till the reign of Edward the Third, when being favoured by the Earl Henry Plantagenet, and his son Henry Duke of Lancaster, it began to recover: for the Duke founded and endowed a collegiate church and hospital, without the south gate, in which he placed a dean and twelve canons, as many vicars and other ministers; an hundred poor sick men and women, and ten able women to assist them. This church was demolished at the dissolution.

The first law for burning heretics, by which Lord Cobham and others suffered death, was made by a parliament in this town in the reign of Henry V. In the civil wars this town was besieged by King Charles I. and taken by storm May 31, 1645, when his army gave no quarter to the garrison, hanged some of the committee and plundered the inhabitants. Sir Thomas Fairfax coming too late to relieve it, besieged it again, and forced the new garrison to surrender upon terms.

The

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The town at present is large and populous. <sup>a</sup> was incorporated by King John, by the name of mayor, a recorder, a steward, aldermen, common-council and other officers. A very considerable manufacture is carried on here, for weaving of stockings by frames, which employs multitudes of people, both in this and the neighbouring towns.

The castle here, before it was dismantled, was a prodigious building. Henry Duke of Lancaster kept his court here, and added twenty six acres of ground to it; which he inclosed with a very strong wall of square stones, eighteen feet high, and called it his *Novum Opus*, vulgarly now *Newark*, where the best houses in or near Leicester are, and do still continue extraparochial. The hall and kitchen still remain entire, as testimonies of the grandeur of the whole; the former being so lofty and spacious, that the courts of justice, which in assize time are held there, are at such a distance as to give no disturbance to one another. There are several gateways to enter this palace; that which faces the east has an arch, deemed a curious piece of architecture; over which, in the tower is kept the magazine for the militia of the county.

In the church above mentioned, Henry, the Earl of Lancaster, and his son, were buried. Besides this hospital, another was built by William Wigston, in the reign of Henry VIII. for twelve poor Lazars.

King Richard III. who was killed in the battle of Bosworth-field, is said to have been buried in St. Margaret's church; which was an episcopal see in the time of the Saxons.

In the meadows near the town, was anciently a famous monastery, from its situation, called *St. Mary de Pratis*, or *De Prez*, which has been turned into a dwelling-house since its dissolution, and the spot of the abbey turned into a garden. Some few remains

mains of the walls are still visible at different parts.

Above a mile from Leicester was a small pool, famous from antiquity for the healing of all leprous humours, and for performing miraculous cures, in green wounds, after the battle of Bosworth; insomuch, that one Judd, an apothecary there, had such an opinion of its virtues, that he built upon it, at a great expence, making convenient apartments for travellers, and dividing it into many partitions, suiting the condition of the patients, as well their quality as their different distempers. But on the decease of Mr. Judd, it has been demolished, and a house built at Leicester of the materials. Some were of opinion, that by the clearing and bricking of it up, the virtue that lay in the marl, which was taken away, was lost, and so it became of no use.

Many Roman coins have been found at Leicester, particularly a pot was dug up at the entrance of White Friars.

There is a long ditch, called Rawdikes, upon the edge of the meadows; half a mile south from Leicester; on the banks of which, tradition says, King Charles I. stood to behold the storming of the town. That Prince lay at the vicarage house at Elston.

In St. Martin's church is a remarkable epitaph, which shews, that Mr. Harpir, who died in 1589, aged 76, lived with his wife in one house fifty-two years, and in all that time buried neither man, woman, nor child, though they were sometimes twenty in family. His widow, who lived to be ninety-seven, saw before her death (in December 1711) of her children, grand-children and great grand-children, to the number of an hundred and forty-three.

B

Here



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Here is a most remarkable relique of antiquity preserved, being a piece of mosaic work at the bottom of a cellar : it is the story of Acteon killed by his own hounds, wrought as a pavement, in a most exquisite manner : the stones are only of two colours, white and brown, and very small.

At a place called *Holy Bones*, abundance of bones of oxen have been dug up, which were the remains of the Roman sacrifices.

*Segs-bill* or *Sax-bill*, a few miles from Leicester, has that name, because six parishes centre and set the marks of their bounds there. It is supposed to have been one of the Roman tumuli.

From Leicester, the road leads north to

*Mountsorrell*, or *Mount-soar-bill*, an hundred and fifty miles from London. It takes its name from the river Soar, on the west side of it, over which it has a stone bridge ; and a great hill, under which it is situated. Here was a castle in the reign of Henry III. which was besieged and demolished by the country people, who had suffered much by the excursions of the garrison. A little south of the town the river Wreke, which comes from the north east, and the river Soar which runs north-west, form a kind of Y ; the Soar from Leicester making the tail.

*Loughborough*, an hundred and ten miles from London, is a fine agreeable town, situate among rich meadow ground. The church is large, and here is a free-school, a charity-school for eighty boys, and another for twenty girls.

The Earl of Huntingdon's seat near this town, is an ancient noble structure, but its situation is not the most desirable ; but the park is esteemed one of the most beautiful in this county : and the seat is called from it *Donnington Park*.

Following the course of the Wreke, to the north-east, we meet with

*Melton*

## LEICESTERSHIRE. 11

*Melton Mowbray*, an hundred and eight miles from London; the town is large, well built, and has a considerable market, especially for cattle. It takes its name from its ancient lords. It is well situated in a fertile soil, almost surrounded with a little river, called the Eye, over which it has two fine bridges. The church is large and handsome, built in the form of a cross, and supposed by Dr. *Gibson* to have been formerly collegiate. In the neighbourhood is

*Burton Lazars*, so called from its ancient hospital for Lazars or Lepers, so rich, that all the inferior Lazer-houses in England were in some sort subject to its master, as he himself was to the master of the Lazars of Jerusalem. It is said to have been built in the time of the Normans, by a general collection throughout England, but chiefly by the assistance of the Mowbrays. *Leland* says, it was founded by Lord Mowbray, for a master and eight brethren of the Augustine order, in the reign of Henry I. at which time, says *Camden*, the leprosy (by some called Elephantiasis) ran by infection all over England, and was believed to have come originally from Egypt.

Another road branches off from Leicester to

*Ashby de la Zouch*, situate in the north-west part of the county, an hundred and fourteen miles and an half from London. It takes its name from the family [of the Zouches, its ancient Lords, and is very pleasantly situated between two parks. It consists but of one principal street, in which is a neat stone cross; the church is large and handsome; and here was formerly a castle, which was demolished in 1648, and King Charles I. had a garrison in one of its towers, which was called *the Maiden Garrison*, because it was never attacked by the parliament army. In the church are some fine ornaments of the *Hastings*, Earls of *Huntingdon*. The  
Ear



Earl of Huntingdon's castle here is said to have been one of the principal in England. King James I. quartered, with his whole court, upon the then Earl for many days together, and the dinner was served up every day by thirty poor knights, with golden chains and velvet gowns. Near this town lies

*Coal-Orton*, famous for its coal-pits, which, Mr. *Burton* says, burned for many years together in the reign of Henry VIII. and could not be quenched till the matter was quite consumed that fed the fire. There is a noted mineral water here called *Griffy Dam*.

Between here and Loughborough is a very large forest, called *Charnwood*, or *Charley Forest*, which is twenty miles in compass.

On the left of the road from Leicester to Ashby, is

*Bosworth*, an hundred and five miles and an half from London. The situation of this town is extremely pleasant. It stands upon a hill, in an wholesome air, and a fruitful soil, both in corn and grass.

*Bosworth Field*, is noted in history for the spot where the decisive battle was fought between the houses of York and Lancaster; which, as fame reports, had cost the lives of eleven princes, twenty-three earls and dukes, three thousand noblemen, knights and gentlemen, and two hundred thousand of the common people. The real name of the place of battle is *Red-more Plain*, where pieces of swords, heads of lances, barbs of arrows, pieces of pole-axes, and such like instruments of death, have been found by the country people in digging or ploughing the ground. Here is a mount cast up, from whence, it is said, Henry, Earl of Richmond, harangued his army before the battle.

There is another market town of the same name, and very ancient, about three miles from the last,

It is situated on a hill, in a healthy pleasant air ; and has a good free-school. The soil in its neighbourhood is extremely fertile.

The Earl of Stamford has a good old hunting seat in this part of the county, called *Bradgate*, and a fine park at *Grosby*. At *Stanton Harold* is a noble seat belonging to the Earl Ferrers. It is exceedingly large, the gardens well laid out, and adorned with statues. At this gate is what may be called a late built church, a very curious structure of square stone : the following inscription gives the account of its founder ;

In the year 1653,  
When all things sacred throughout the nation  
Were either demolished or profaned,  
Sir *Robert Shirley*, Bart. founded this Church,  
Whose singular praise it is, to have done  
The best things in the worst times.

*Lutterworth*, seventy-five miles from London ; is an ancient town, and famous for having had the good divine, John Wickliffe, for its rector ; he was the first preacher of the reformation, and his disciples went under the denomination of *Lollards*.

The church, which is very handsome, with a lofty spire, was beautified some years ago with a costly pavement of chequered stone, and new pews. Every thing both in church and chancel was new, except the pulpit, which was preserved in memory of Mr. Wickliffe, who died and was buried here ; but by order of the council of Constance, his bones were taken out of the grave forty years after, and burnt.

West of this town is the antient Watling-street, which is crossed by the Fosse, at High Cross, on the borders of this county, and which probably gave it the name. This, according to some, is the highest

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highest ground in England, (though *Camden* supposes Penn, in Buckinghamshire, to be so) for from hence rivers run every way. The Fosse passes from here to Bath. Here are divers Roman antiquities: its ancient appellation was *Benonis*. The late Earl of Denbigh, and the gentlemen in the neighbourhood, erected a cross here of an handsome design, but of mouldering stone, through the deceit of the architect. It consists of four Doric columns, regarding the four roads, with a gilded globe and cross at top, upon a sun-dial. On two sides, between the four Tuscan pillars, which compose a sort of pedestal, are Latin inscriptions, which are thus translated.

“The noblemen and gentlemen, ornaments of the neighbouring counties, of Warwick and Leicester, at the instances of the Right Hon. Basil, Earl of Denbigh, have caused this pillar to be erected, in grateful, as well as perpetual remembrance of PEACE at last restored by her Majesty Queen ANNE, in the year of our Lord 1712.

On the other side,

“If, traveller, you search for the footsteps of the ancient Romans, here you may behold them; for here their most celebrated military ways, crossing one other, extend to the utmost boundaries of Britain: here the Venones kept their quarters; and at the distance of one mile from hence, Claudius, a certain commander of a Cohort, seems to have had a camp toward the street,\* and toward the Fosse, a tomb.”

\* The Watling-street, simply called the Street, by way of eminence.

The

The Watling-street measuring from Chester thro' London and Dover, makes a strait line with Rome, which seems to have been so contrived by the great founders, that in travelling upon it, they might have the satisfaction of reflecting, that they were going upon the line which led to the capital of the empire.

The road is not passable but just in the middle of summer, after the coal-carriages have beaten the way; for as the ground is a stiff clay, so after the rain the water stands as in a dish, and horses sink into it up to their bellies.

*Hinkley*, an hundred and two miles from London, is a market town, pleasantly situated on a hill. It is noted for a large handsome church and an high spire steeple, all of stone, in which is a chime of excellent bells.

There is nothing farther that is materially worthy of notice in this county: for the many remarkable Roman antiquities discovered in and about Leicester, we must refer our readers to *Burton's History* of this County.



# LEICESTERSHIRE

The Whiting & Co. Messrs. J. C. Chester, of London and Dover, make a large quantity of which seems to have been so counted by the great number, that in travelling, when in these regions, they are the subject of conversation, and they are found upon the face which is the subject of the paper.

I observed a few small birds, in the month of January, after the commencement of the winter, for as the ground is a little covered with the water, and in a few days, it is so to be seen.

There are many small birds, in the month of January, and many of them are seen in the month of February, and in the month of March, and in the month of April, and in the month of May, and in the month of June, and in the month of July, and in the month of August, and in the month of September, and in the month of October, and in the month of November, and in the month of December.

I have observed a few small birds, in the month of January, and many of them are seen in the month of February, and in the month of March, and in the month of April, and in the month of May, and in the month of June, and in the month of July, and in the month of August, and in the month of September, and in the month of October, and in the month of November, and in the month of December.

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## M I D L A N D C I R C U I T.

### W A R W I C K S H I R E,

**I**S bounded on the west, by Worcestershire; on the south, by Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire; on the north, by Derbyshire and Staffordshire; and on the east, by Northamptonshire; it is also divided from Leicestershire on the same side, by the old Roman causeway, called Watling-street.

It is almost forty miles in length from Newton in the north, to Compton in the south; and about thirty in breadth from Grange in the west, to Hilmerston in the east. The shire being somewhat oblong, and not circular, as it appears to be in the maps at first sight, its dimensions therefore are variously computed; some make the length thirty-three miles, the breadth twenty-six. By these the circumference is computed at an hundred and twenty-two, while some reckon it an hundred and thirty-five, and others but an hundred and ten. Mr. *Templeman* calculates the contents at eight hundred and thirty-two square miles, and others at six hundred and seventy thousand acres. Its air is excellent, the soil rich, and its principal commodities are corn, malt, wood, iron, coal, and cheese.

It is divided into two parts, the Folden and the Woodland, that on the south side and this on the north side of the Avon; by which it is certain,  
C that



that as the former was a champaign, the other was a woody country. The first afforded all the pasture and corn grounds; and the second was of little use besides fuel; but the iron works in the adjacent counties have so consumed the wood, that they have long since made way for the plough; and at present, what by marl and other good contrivances, all this part yields abundance of corn; so that the Felden, which used to supply the other with corn, cheese, and butter, is now turned, in a great measure, into pasturing. The soil in both is good, and produces excellent corn and cheese, especially the latter, which has so much the preference, that the very name of it given to that of other counties, which is not so good, is enough to carry it off.

This county being situated as far from the sea, as any in England, may for delight, plenty, and the conveniencies of life, be equalled, if not preferred to any in the kingdom. Since the woodlands have been so much thinned, the air is very wholesome in all the parts of it; being not only clear from the woods, but from lakes and bogs, which always render the country unhealthy. Then if good water be conducive to health, as it certainly is, here are so many rivers, and rivulets, upon which most of their towns, and greater villages are built, that every man has good water almost at his door.

The most considerable rivers in this county are the Avon and the Tame. The Avon, which comes out of Northamptonshire, runs quite obliquely from north-east to south-west cross the county, and receives the Leam, the Schen, and the Stour on the south side; and on the north it is augmented by the Swift, the Sherburn, the Holbrooke, the Arrow and Aln. The Tame, which enters this county from Staffordshire, on the north-west side, at Watford-bridge, receives several currents on both sides, the  
chief

chief of which are the Anker and the Blythe ; and after having run some miles through Henlingford-hundred, leaves it at Stamford, and returns into Staffordshire. Besides its rivers, there are salt-springs and medicinal waters.

The county, which is partly in the diocese of Worcester and partly in that of Litchfield and Coventry, sends six members to parliament, besides the two knights of the shire, viz. two for Coventry, two for Warwick, and two for Tamworth.

Joining the Birmingham road, which we left at Easton in Oxfordshire, the first town that claims our notice on it in this county, is,

*Stratford upon Avon*, ninety-five miles from London. It is a populous town, situate in the south part of Warwickshire, on the banks of the Avon, which river is so far navigable. The lordship belonged to the Bishop of Worcester three hundred years before the Conquest. It was incorporated by King Edward VI. who likewise granted them certain lands and possessions that had belonged to the Guild of the Holy Cross, to maintain a grammar-school.

The church here, called Trinity church, is said to be as old as the conquest, and is rendered famous for being the burial place of the immortal and inimitable Shakespeare, whose name, as a dramatic writer, will be ever revered ; and whose works will ever be admired by a British audience. His busto in the wall on the north side of the church, and a flat grave-stone covers the body, in the aisle just under him ; on which grave-stone these lines are written,

Good friend, for Jesus sake, forbear  
To move the dust that resteth here ;  
Blest be the man that spares these stones,  
And curst be he that moves my bones.

There

There is another monument on the south side of the church, next the chancel, no less curious. On it are four inscriptions, three in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin, and one in English, as follows ;

Here born, here liv'd, here dy'd, and bury'd here,  
Lieth Richard Hill, thrice bailiff of this Borough;  
Two matrons of good fame he marry'd in God's  
fear ;

And now releas'd, in joy, he rests from wordly  
sorrow.

There is a fine stone bridge here of fourteen arches over the river Avon, with a long causeway at the end of it. The navigation of this river is an exceeding advantage to all this part of the county, and also to the commerce of the city of Bristol ; for by this river they drive a good trade in sugar, oil, wine, tobacco and lead, and, in a word, all heavy goods which are usually carried by water, almost as far as Warwick ; and, in return, the corn, and especially cheese, are carried back from Gloucestershire and Warwickshire, to Bristol.

*Aulcester*, an hundred and two miles from London, and eight miles west of Stratford. It is a very ancient town and corporation, and no doubt a Roman station, from the many coins and other antiquities dug up here. A considerable number, both of gold and silver, was found some years ago in an urn, in digging the foundation of a cellar, which came into the possession of Lord Brooke, the lord of the manor. It was formerly in the possession of the King's of England, some of whom resided here. King Henry I. gave it to Sir Robert Corbet, the father of one of his concubines. The ancient Roman way, called Ikenild-street passes also through this town.

*Kington,*

*Kington*, or *Kineton*, east of Stratford, and eighty-eight miles from London, was anciently in the possession of Edward the Confessor. There was formerly a castle, where, tradition says, King John kept his court; under which, at the foot of the hill, is a spring, which still retains the name of King John's Well.

On the right of this town, the Roman Fosse way runs, through this county, to High Cross, in Leicestershire, before mentioned.

*Edge-bill*, in this neighbourhood, is famous in history for the first battle fought between the forces of King Charles I. and the parliament, in 1642. It is called the *Vale of Red-horse*, because the country people cut out the shape of a horse on the side of a hill, upon a red soil, near Tyssol; and some neighbouring freeholders are obliged from their tenures to keep it clean and in shape. North of Kineton is

*Warwick*, ninety-three miles from London, is the county town, and which takes its name from it, Its situation is pleasant, standing on a rock of freestone, on the banks of the river Avon. The meadows here are rich and fertile, and the whole country round desirable and delightful. *Dugdale* derives its name from the Saxon *Wara*, i. e. inhabitants, and *Wic*, a town, or castle; though others say it took its name from *Warremund*, one of the ancestors of the Mercian Kings. The town is certainly of very great antiquity, and is said to have been founded by Cimbeline, one of the British Kings, cotemporary with our Saviour. But history of such early date is so obscured, that it is not always to be depended upon; but this is certain, it was very eminent in the time of the Romans. Mr. *Camden* is of opinion, that this was the *Præsidium*, where, as the *Notitia* says, the præfect of the Dalmatian horse was posted, by order of the governor of Britain.



tain. The Picts and Scots demolished it, and when it was repaired, it was besieged, taken and garrisoned by Oforius, after which it was again plundered and laid waste, till Constantine, father of Uther Pendragon, rebuilt it. It suffered very much after this by the Saxons and Danes; but in the year 911, Ethelfleda, a noble lady of the Mercians, restored it to that flourishing state in which it was found by the Normans. This lady, in the year 915, raised a strong fortification here, called the *Dungeon*, for resistance against the enemy, on the west side of the castle, near the river.

In the reign of King Athelstan, the famous Guy Earl of Warwick resided here, of whom so many fabulous accounts have been handed down to us by tradition, that it would be tedious even to abstract from them. This champion is said to have decided the fate of the kingdom, in single combat, with Colebrand, the Dane, whom the monks, to render the exploit the greater, have represented as a monstrous giant, who came to combat with Guy, weightily harnessed, and before him a cart loaded with Danish axes, great clubs with knobs of iron, squared bars of steel, lances, and iron hooks to pull his adversary to him.\*

This town was almost consumed on the 5th of September 1694, when the damage was computed at near an hundred thousand pounds, but it was after rebuilt with much more magnificence by the liberal contributions of the nation, in pursuance of an act of parliament; and the free-stone for the superstructure dug from the quarry of the rock, on which it is founded, and through a part of which rock, are four ways leading to it, answering to the

\* For the whole of this romantic account, we refer our readers to Dugdale's Survey of this County.

four cardinal points. It was formerly fortified with walls and a ditch. The streets, which are spacious and regular, all centre in one point in the middle of the town.

Warwick has sent members to parliament *ab origine*, who are chosen by the inhabitants paying scot and lot, and returned by the mayor. Philip and Mary were the first who incorporated it, by the name of bailiffs and burgessees, with a perpetual succession. To this charter, King James I. added some other particular grants.

On the west side of Warwick, was formerly a priory for Dominicans or Black Friars, who settled here about the reign of Henry III. and on the east part was the hospital of St. John Baptist, founded by William Earl of Warwick, in the reign of Henry II. for the entertainment and reception of strangers and travellers, as well as those that were poor and infirm. The hospital of St. Michael, founded by Roger the then Earl, in the reign of Henry I. And on the north side of the city, Henry de Newburgh, the first Earl of Warwick, after the Conquest, founded a priory for Regular Canons of the Holy Sepulchre, in the reign of Henry I.

By the fire before mentioned, the church of St. Mary was destroyed as far as the choir, and many ancient and noble monuments of brass and stone entirely lost and defaced. The church and lofty tower, are rebuilt, except the east end, which is very good work. Near the battlements are cut in stone the arms of all that have been Earls of Warwick; and in the church are many fine brass monuments of its ancient Earls still remaining, also one of the Earl of Essex, the unhappy favourite of Queen Elizabeth; and many chapels and commissioners. In the chapter-house on the north side is a tomb of Lord Brooke.

The

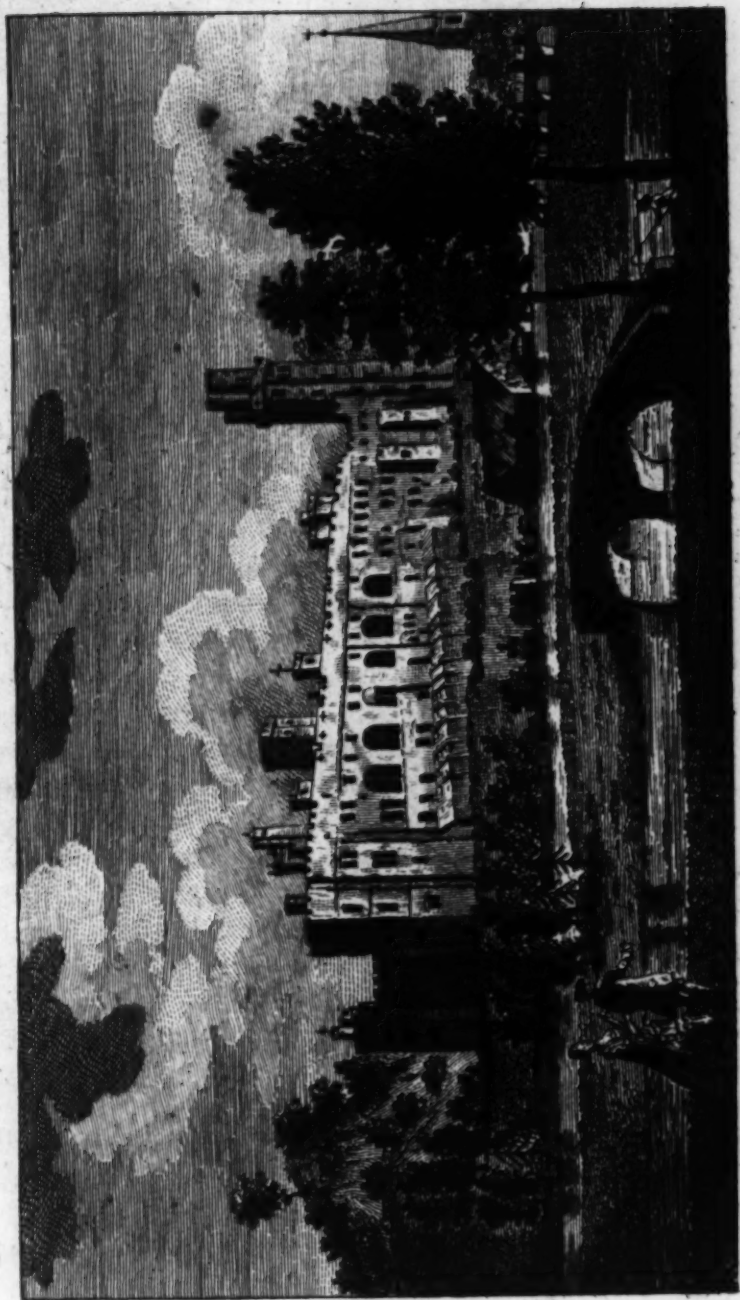


The market-house is handsome and built of stone, supported by pillars of the same; and here is a good free-school, and four hospitals, one of them endowed for twelve decayed gentlemen, with an allowance of twenty pounds a year for each, and fifty pounds for a chaplain.

Within a mile of the town, on the side of an hill, by the river Avon, is a pretty retired cell, called *Guy's*; or by some *Gib's Cliff*, where Guy Earl of Warwick is supposed to have lived a hermit, after his martial exploits. One of his successors, Guy de Beauchamp, built a chapel here, with a noble tower, and set up in it a gigantic figure, eight feet high, to his memory. This building, when in its glory, was reckoned little inferior to Henry the Seventh's chapel at Westminster.

On the northern bank of the river stands the castle. The area of the first erection is doubtful; however, by Domesday-book it appears to have belonged to King Edward the Confessor, as a special strong hold for the midland parts; and that Turkill was governor thereof for the King. Some parts of its ancient work were visible in *Dugdale's* time, and the dungeon raised near the river is still to be seen on the west side of the present castle. It was deemed a place of great importance in the reign of King Henry III. insomuch that he required good security of Margery, sister and heiress of Thomas Earl of Warwick, that she should not take to husband any person whatever, in whom the King could not repose trust, as in his own self: the chief reason alledged, was, the strength of this castle, and its vicinity to the marches.

In the time of the civil war, it was made a garrison for the parliament, by the Lord Brooke; and besieged by Lord Northampton in 1642, who surprized the artillery and ammunition bringing down from London for its defence. It was then commanded



*Warwick Castle Warwickshire.*



manded by Sir Edward Peto, who, though he had only one small piece of cannon, and a few muskets, defended it sixteen days, until relieved by the Lord Brooke. The prisoners taken at Edge-hill were confined here. Robert Lord Brooke, in the time of Charles II. much embellished the whole building, and fitted up the state apartments.

In the precinct of this castle was a church, dedicated to All Saints, and according to *Rous* founded by the Britons. Sir *William Dugdale* says, "Here is to be seen a large two handed sword, with a helmet, and certain plate armour for horse service; which, according to tradition, were part of the accoutrements sometime belonging to the famous Guy; but I rather think they are of much later date; yet I found that in the first of Henry VIII. the sword having that repute, the King granted the custody thereof to William Hoggesson, one of the yeomen of the buttery, or his sufficient deputy, with the fee of eleven pence per diem for that service." This office was continued by Queen Elizabeth; the fee is set down in *Peck's Desiderate Curiosa*, at five pounds per annum. The horse armour is no longer shewn; but in recompence, the remaining curiosities have been reinforced by the accession of Guy's spear, buckler, bow, spurs, and porridge-pot; as likewise the slippers of the beautiful Phillis, the *dulcinea*, for whose sake he performed all his wonderful achievements.

At the castle is a stone bridge, with a dozen arches; across is a stone-work dam, where the water falls over it, as a cascade under the castle wall.

At *Barford*, nine miles below Warwick, Samuel Fairfax, who in 1647 was twelve years of age, lived under the same roof, and eat at the same table with his father and mother, grandfather and grandmother, great grandfather and great grandmother,



and not one of the three generations of either sex had been twice married.

*Kenilworth*, no great distance north from Warwick, is situated in a pleasant part of the country. It is noted for having formerly had a monastery for Augustine monks; but it is chiefly famous for its castle, founded by Geoffry de Clifton, Lord Chamberlain and Treasurer to King Henry I. It was a place of great strength, but continued not long in that family; for in the eleventh of Henry the Second, the sheriff accounted for the profit of the park; and in the nineteenth of Henry the Second, his eldest son rebelling against him, it was possessed and garrisoned by the King, at which time there was laid in an hundred quarters of corn, at eight pounds eight shillings and eleven pence, which is little more than two pence a bushel, twenty quarters of barley at thirty-three shillings and four pence, an hundred hogs at seven pounds ten shillings, forty cows salted four pounds, an hundred and twenty cheeses at forty shillings, twenty-five quarters of salt at thirty shillings. The amazing difference in the prices of provisions, between that and the present time, may be computed from the above articles.

King John fortified and rebuilt the tower of this castle, and garrisoned it with soldiers, to defend it against the barons, who rebelled against him at that time. Sending there likewise his son for safety, under the care of William de Cantilupe, who acted under the command of Ralph de Normanvill, whom the King sent thither as a principal officer.

In the twenty-sixth of Henry III. this castle was greatly repaired and ornamented. That King afterwards granted the castle to Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, and Eleanor his wife, during their lives. The earl joining with the Barons, was, with his eldest son, slain at the battle of Evesham.

It

It held out resolutely against that King, who finding a stouter resistance than he expected, turned the siege into a blockade, and held a parliament in Kenilworth. On the first assembling of his parliament he sent a message to them, offering advantageous terms both to the governor and garrison, who not only refused his offers, but barbarously maimed the messenger. The King exasperated at this usage, and tired of the blockade, commanded all the masons and labourers within this district, to be assembled on the 11th of December, 1266, with their hatchets, pick-axes, and other tools, with a resolution to storm the castle; but a violent pestilential disorder breaking out amongst the garrison, and their provisions being nearly exhausted, they surrendered; Henry de Hastings, with the garrison, being permitted to go freely forth, with their horses, arms and accoutrements, and four days allowed them for the removal of their goods. Bishop *Gibson*, in his edition of *Camden*, says, "near this castle they still find balls of stone, sixteen inches in diameter, supposed to have been thrown in slings in the time of the barons wars." But *Grosse* is of opinion, that these balls were most probably designed for the engines the garrison made use of to cast stones of extraordinary bigness, from the castle; for their weight, supposing them only of the same specific quality as Portland stone, would be upwards of two hundred pounds; by far, too great a mass to be thrown by the strength of an human arm. The King, after the siege, bestowed the castle on his son Edmund, and his lawful heirs.

In the reign of Edward I. a gallant assembly was held here, of an hundred knights, and as many ladies, headed by Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, the which many repaired from foreign parts. They exercised themselves in feats of chivalry; the

the ladies in dancing. It is recorded, seemingly as an extraordinary circumstance, that these ladies were clad in silken mantles. They stiled themselves the Society of the Round Table, from one at which they were seated in order thereby to avoid contention for precedency.

The unfortunate King Edward the Second, being deposed by his Queen, was kept close prisoner here; and afterwards removed in the night, by his brutal keepers, and in an open field, between this and Warwick, set on the bare ground, and shaved with dirty water out of a neighbouring ditch. He was shortly after murdered at Berkeley castle.

It came afterwards by marriage to John of Gaunt, with Blanch the younger; who, towards the latter end of the reign of Richard the Second, built that part of the castle still called Lancaster Buildings.

On the right of Kenilworth, is *Knightlow Hill*, or *Cross*, which gives name to its hundred, wherein ancient custom says, forty towns are obliged, on pain of the forfeiture of thirty shillings, and a white bull, to pay a certain rent to the lord of the hundred, called *wroth-money*, or *swarf-money*, which must be deposited every Martinmas-day in the morning before the sun rise, when the party paying it, must go thrice about the cross, and say, the Wroth-money, and lay it in the hole of the cross before witness. By this cross is the direct road from London to

*Coventry*, ninety-one miles from the metropolis, is of great antiquity; concerning the derivation of its name, authors differ, some deriving it from *Co-ven*, a *Convent*, others from a little brook here, whose true name is *Cune*; the last syllable *tre*, is certainly British, and signifies a town or city.

as  
nam.

That there was a monastery here of very ancient date is certain, for in 1016, Canute and his followers invaded this kingdom, burnt and pillaged several places in this county, and destroyed a house of nuns here, of which St. Osburg, a holy virgin, was abbess. Leofric, Earl of Mercia, who appears to have been first lord of this city, rebuilt this religious house, and most richly endowed it; his lady seems to have been a great benefactor to Coventry, for there is a tradition, which is firmly believed at Coventry, and related almost by all authors in substance as follows.

“ The Earl Leofric, having heavily taxed the citizens for some offence, his devout Lady Godiva, daughter of Thorold, sheriff of Lincolnshire, earnestly importuned him to omit the taxes. She for sometime met with nothing but rebukes to her intreaties, expressing his wonder that she should make any solicitations for what was so much against his interest, and commanded her to press the subject no farther; but she still persisting therein, and he being convinced of her thorough modesty, that she would not accept of the terms he should offer, told her, that if she would ride on horse-back naked through the town, he would grant her request. Whereunto she returned, “ But will you give me leave so to do ? ” and he replying “ Yes, ” the noble lady undertook it, and as tradition says, after having ordered all the doors and windows to be shut, upon pain of death, rode through the streets on horseback naked, with her loose hair about her, which was so long, that it covered all her body but her legs.” We read in *Camden*, that nobody looked at her; yet the story goes, that a poor taylor would be peeping, and was struck blind. Be this as it will, his figure is put up in the same window in the High street, to this day. And the pictures both  
of



of the Earl and his lady, were set up in the south window of Trinity church, about the time of Richard the Second. In his right hand he holds a charter, with these words inscribed thereon;

“ I LEOFRIC, for the love of thee,  
Do set COVENTRY toll free.”

It is said the earl and his wife were buried in the two porches of the monastery. The inhabitants of Coventry have an annual procession, or cavalcade, on the great fair day, the Friday after Trinity Sunday, representing the above lady so riding through the town; and it is usual for the Warwickshire gentlemen, at their annual feast, to represent her in the same manner, with Guy Earl of Warwick on horse-back, armed cap à-pée before the cavalcade.

Leofric died in the 13th of Edward the Confessor, when this city came into the possession of the Earls of Chester. It was afterwards annexed to the earldom of Cornwall, and began to flourish very much. It had divers immunities and privileges from several Kings, especially Edward the Third, who granted it a mayor and two bailiffs; and Henry VI. who having laid several towns and villages to it, granted by his charter, that, “ it should be an intire county, incorporate by itself in deed and name, distinct from the county of Warwick,” and that the bailiffs of the said city should be sheriffs of the county of the city for ever. At this time the citizens began to inclose it with walls. It having behaved disloyal to King Edward IV. he took the sword from the mayor, and seized the citizens liberties and franchises, which they redeemed with five hundred marks; but he was so well reconciled about four years after, that he kept St. George’s feast here, and stood godfather to the  
mayor’s

mayor's child. King James I. granted it a charter, by which ten aldermen were to preside over ten wards of the city, who were to be justices of the peace within the city and its county. After the restoration of Charles II. the walls and towers were demolished, and only the gates left standing, which are very noble and beautiful, at one of which hangs a shield bone of a wild boar, much bigger than that of an ox; said to have been slain by Guy Earl of Warwick, after he had with his snout turned up the pond, which is now called Swan's-well-pool, but more anciently Swine's well.

The Princes of Wales have a large park and domain here, but very ill kept, the park being used for horse-races.

Two remarkable parliaments were formerly held in this city, stigmatized in our history with very scandalous epithets; the one in the reign of Henry IV. called *Parliamentum Indoctorum*, or the unlearned parliament, because the lawyers were excluded: the other in the reign of Henry VI. called *Parliamentum Diabolicum*, or the devil's parliament, from the attainders of the Duke of York and the Earls of Salisbury, Warwick and March, and their adherents.

Coventry-cross, so publicly known by name, is a stately pile, erected in the reign of Henry the Eighth, in the middle of its spacious market, by Sir William Hollis, Lord Mayor of London, and was repaired and beautified in 1667. It is a fine Gothic cross, sixty feet high, but is greatly in want of a fresh repair, many of the figures being broken and defaced, and very little care taken to preserve it from total destruction.

The town-house is worthy the attention of the traveller: the windows of it are painted glass, representing some of the old Kings, Earls, &c. who have been benefactors to this town.

A copy

A copy of Latin verses is likewise to be read, in praise of their royal benefactors, in which are named the Edwards, the Heneries, the Black Prince, Queen Elizabeth, the Duke of Northumberland, and the great Earl of Leicester, Queen Elizabeth's favourite.

This city is very extensive and populous, but the buildings are old, and in some places much decayed; those built of timber project forward into the street, towards one another, insomuch that in the narrow streets they almost touch at top: a method of building formerly much practiced in London.

Coventry had formerly only two parish churches, that of the Holy Trinity, and that of St. Michael, which being found too small to contain half the inhabitants, an act passed in 1734, for making the parish church of Bablack, in Coventry, a parish church, &c.

Though it has but three churches, it has four steeples; there being at the south end of the town a tall spire, by itself, the only remains of a church that belonged to a monastery of Grey Friars.

In the church of St. Michael, which is a fine fabric of Gothic architecture, is a curious piece of painting, lately erected for an altar-piece, by some thought more to resemble those that are seen in popish churches abroad, than the true Protestant simplicity. But here is no cathedral as has been reported, neither is the great church, so called, either collegiate or conventual, but only a monastery or priory.

The spire of the great church is, however, very beautiful and an hundred yards high.

The water, of the river Sherburn, on which the city stands, is peculiar for its blue dye, whence Coventry blue became famous.

At

At Meriden, a few miles above Coventry, a road branches off to

*Birmingham*, an hundred and ten miles from London. The town is large and very populous, the upper part of which stands dry on the side of a hill, but the lower part is watery. Vast numbers of people are employed here in the iron manufactories, especially the smaller sorts; there being no place in England, nor indeed in the whole world, where such great quantities are made, and which are exported to all parts of the world. It was a lordship before the Norman conquest, which denomination it still retains, being governed by two constables. Within these late years, it is greatly improved and enlarged, by many new buildings, both public and private; particularly a church, built by virtue of an act of parliament, passed in the seventh year of Queen Anne, which is dedicated to St. Philip; a charity school, wherein are maintained and taught seventy boys, and thirty girls; and a free grammar-school founded and handsomely endowed, by King Edward VI. now built in a stately and commodious form. The old church is dedicated to St. Martin, and is a large spacious building, and said to be four or five hundred years old, but the name of the founder is not handed down to posterity. The west end is ornamented with a very handsome spire, but as the part of the town where it stands is low, it is not much taken notice of; it measures about seventy yards, or upwards, from the ground to the weather-cock. In the tower is a very excellent ring of ten bells, with a set of good chimes, which play seven tunes upon the barrel. The church, which is built with soft, red, sandy stone, being much decayed, was cased over with brick in the year 1692.

St. Philip's church has likewise a good ring of ten bells, and chimes. There is also a very plain  
E and



and neat chapel, built of brick, consecrated in the year 1750, in the parish of St. Martin.

Another road turns off at Meriden, to

*Sutton Colefield*, an hundred and five miles from London. This parish is large and delightfully situated, in an excellent air, among pleasant woods, but in a barren soil. It has a chase, or forest, as it was first called, which extended to the banks of the Thame and Bourne. The ancient Ikenild-street runs through part of it. In the reign of King Henry VIII. when this manor was in the crown, John Herman, alias Vesey, Bishop of Exeter, who was born here, and a very great benefactor to the town, obtained letters patent for incorporating it by the name of a warden and society, to consist of twenty-three persons, besides the warden, with also other privileges and immunities. Here are two fairs annually, viz. on Trinity Monday and November the 8th, for horned cattle, horses and sheep.

*Colehill*, is a small but handsome market town. It is situated on a very high hill, by the side of the river Cole. The spire of the church may be seen at a great distance every way.

In Colehill parish is a piece of land, called *Pater-noster piece*, given by one of the family of the Digbys, to encourage children to learn the Lord's prayer; for every house-keeper in the town, who has a child, sends it in turn, one at a time, every morning, to church, where kneeling he says the Lord's prayer to the under-master, who rewards him with a penny.

Below this town, in a valley, is the park and seat of the family of the Digbys. The house is ancient, and the situation low, which renders it bad in winter, but in summer it is exceedingly pleasant, having the fine river serpentizing through the park, and the verdure continuing all the summer, when  
most

most other grounds around it are burnt up. It is also adorned with very agreeable woods.

About a mile from Meriden, is

*Packington*, the seat of the Earl of Aylesford. The house stands on the south side of the road, and the park on the north side. A large arch is turned over the road, wide enough for a wheel carriage to pass over, in order to have a communication between the house and park, without going through the road. The house is modern, and built in a very good taste, but it being situated low, must deprive it of the advantage of any extraordinary prospect.

*Nuneaton*, seven miles north of Coventry, is a pretty large well built town, situated on the river Anker. Its ancient name was *Eaton*, from *Ea*, which signifies water in the old French-English, because it stands on a rivulet, and *Ton*, a town; and it was afterwards called *Nuneaton*, from a nunnery founded in it by Robert Boffu, Earl of Leicester. Here is a good free-school founded by the inhabitants in the reign of Edward VI. who gave to it three closes of ground, in the liberty of Coventry. The chief manufacture carried on in this town is Woollen Cloth.

*Rugby*, situated near the borders of Northamptonshire and Leicestershire, eighty-five miles from London. This town is chiefly noted for its great number of butchers. Here was formerly a castle, supposed to have been built in the reign of King Stephen; and the inhabitants have a tradition, that it was Sir Henry Rokeby's castle, who gave some lands here to the inhabitants of Pipwell. Here is a grammar-school, and four alms-houses, founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by one Lawrence Sheriff, a haberdasher of the city of London. There is also another school, and an alms-house, for teaching and cloathing thirty poor children, and maintaining

taining six poor widows for ever ; none to be admitted under sixty years of age. This charity was the gift of Mr. Richard Elborow, of Rugby, in 1707.

*Wroxhall*, in this county, had likewise a nunnery formerly, to which the whole manor was given in the reign of King Stephen. This manor was purchased by the late Sir Christopher Wren, in the year 1713.

*Shuckborough*, is noted for one of its ancient Lords, Richard Shuckborough, Esq. knighted by King Charles I. He was present at the battle of Edge-hill, and after the taking of Banbury castle, and his Majesty's retreat from those parts ; he went to his own seat, and fortified himself on the top of Shuckborough-hill, where being attacked by the parliament forces he bravely defended himself, till he fell, with most of his tenants about him. He was carried prisoner to Kenilworth castle, where he recovered, and was obliged to purchase his liberty at a very dear rate. This family bear in their arms three mullets, which extremely resemble the astroites, or star-stones, that are often ploughed up in the neighbouring fields. It appears, their ancestors had lands here as far back as in the reign of King John.

*Atterston*, on the Stour, is noted for having formerly had a monastery of Augustine Friars. The cheese-factors buy up great quantities of its cheese, (at the great cheese fair held here on the 8th of September,) which they carry to Stourbridge fair.

The town is pretty large and well built, with a chapel of ease, and there is a charity school, where twenty girls are taught to read, knit, sew, and spin linen and jersey.

*Newenham Regis*, almost opposite to Rugby, and near the river Swift, is noted for its medicinal waters that come from three springs, supposed to be percolated

percolated through a mineral of allom. The waters, though of a milky colour and taste, are reckoned a good medicine for the stone; they are certainly very diuretic and close, and heal green wounds. Being drank with salt they are laxative, and with sugar restraining.

*Leamington*, in the neighbourhood of Shuckborough, is noted for a spring of salt, which is only used by the poorer sort of the inhabitants, to season their bread. It rises near the river Leam.

*Muncester*, a small village upon Watling-street, in the north part of the county; was anciently called *Manduessedum* by the Romans, but has no remains left of its ancient grandeur, except an old square fort, containing about seven acres, which they call Oldbury.

At Dovebridge, upon the Avon, where it runs by Rugby to Warwick, was anciently a Roman station, called *Tripontium*. The stream here divides into two, with a bridge over each, and upon one there is a short inscription in stone, shewing the three counties that repair it,





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## MIDLAND CIRCUIT.

### NORTHAMPTONSHIRE,

**I**S situate in the very centre of the kingdom, and at the time of the Conqueror's survey, was somewhat larger than it is at present; for in Domesday-book, we meet with towns which are now in the south part of Rutlandshire.

It is bounded on the south by Buckinghamshire; on the west by Warwickshire and Oxfordshire; and as it runs in a narrow tract towards the north-east, in the form of a boot, it therefore borders upon more counties than any other in England; for on the north it is bounded by Leicestershire, Rutlandshire, and Lincolnshire, from which it is parted by the rivers Welland and Little Avon; and on the east by Bedfordshire, Huntingdonshire, and Cambridgeshire.

The length of this county from south-west to north-east, is computed by some to be fifty-six miles; in the broadest part from east to west twenty-six; and an hundred and twenty-five in compass; others reckon it forty-five where longest, and twenty where broadest, and about an hundred and twenty in circumference, containing five hundred and fifty thousand acres. Mr. *Templeman* computes the length at fifty-one, the breadth at twenty-one, and the square miles at six hundred and eighty-three.

The

## 40 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The air of it is so exceedingly pleasant and wholesome, by reason of its distance from the sea, and all manner of marshes, (excepting that small tract called the fen land about Peterborough) that the nobility and gentry have more seats here, than there are in any other county in England, of equal bigness; there being scarce a village in it but has one or more. And though the above mentioned tract, towards Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire, is often overflowed, by great falls of water from the uplands in the rainy season, yet the inhabitants never suffer it to lay long, even in the winter season, to prejudice the air, of which the healthfulness and longevity of the people is a plain proof.

The soil is very fruitful both in tillage and pasturage, but it is not well stocked with wood; nor by reason of its distance from the sea, can it be supplied with coals as duly as other counties, so that winter fuel here is extremely dear; though since the river Nen has been made navigable to Northampton, they are greatly helped in these articles. It abounds with sheep and other cattle, wool, pigeons and salt-petre; and it has been observed that there is less waste ground in this than in any other county of England, there being but one barren heath in it, and that near Whittering. It is a plain, level country, and so populous, that from some places may be seen no less than thirty steeples at one view. Its manufactures are, serges, tammies, shalloons, boots and shoes.

It is well watered with fresh rivulets and rills, besides the five great rivers, the Nen, Welland, Ouse, Leam, and Charwell; the two last of which, and the Nen, spring out of one hill near Catesby and Helliden, in the hundred of Fausley, from whence the Charwell runs to the south, and the Leam to the west, which, as it hastens to the Severn, is received by the Avon, and the Nen towards

wards the east. The Nen, which is the most considerable of those rivers, crosses the country from Peterborough, where it is widest, towards Daventry. It is navigable no higher above Peterborough than Allerton-mills. The Welland, which runs, as has been said, on the north border of the county, rises near Brackley, from the spring called Ousewell, in the hundred of Sutton, but runs at some distance from this county, till it comes near Stony Stratford, where it passes near the hundred of Clely, and a little lower receives the river Toure, which having watered Towcester, runs, after a winding course of many miles, into the Ouse, near Cosgrove. The Little Avon rises in the same hundred as the Welland, and falling westward with a small stream, leaves this county near Lilburn, and passes into Warwickshire, as does also the Leam, which, with the Charwell, makes up the west border, dividing it from Oxfordshire. The Leam rises from a spring at Helliden, called the Little Down, hastens by Catesby and Staverton into Warwickshire, where it gives name to the two Leamingtons, and then loses both its water and name in the Ouse.

This county sends nine members to parliament; two knights of the shire, and two burgessees each for the city of Peterborough, and the towns of Northampton and Brackley, and one for Higham Ferrers.

*Towcester*, or *Torcester*, sixty miles from London, is a very ancient populous town, situated in the great road to Chester, in the south part of the county. this is supposed by some to be the *Tripontium* of the Romans, so called from the bridges over the three streams, into which the little river is here divided. That it was formerly a Roman station is certain, from the number of old coins found here, and its situation on the military way, called Watling-street.



## 22 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

This town was besieged by the Danes in the year 917, but it was then so fortified that they could not take it; and King Edward is said to have encompassed it afterwards with a strong stone wall, of which there are now no traces remaining. Here was formerly a priory.

The inhabitants of this town, who are very numerous, are employed, young and old, in the silk manufacture, and lace-making. The town consists but of one long street, and is almost entirely encompassed with water.

Near Towcester, is *Easton Neston*, the fine seat of the Countess of Pomfret. The house is a stately building, and pleasantly situated amongst good plantations of wood, vistas, and fine prospects. In the grand view to the back-front, beyond the garden, is a large and long canal; and just below the gardens, the meadows, which are of great extent, lie open to the view of the house; and the river serpentizing through these, gives a great beauty to the seat. The house is handsomely fitted up, and ornamented with several capital paintings. But the principal glory of this seat, was the vast number of Greek and Roman marbles, statues, bustos, bass-reliefs, urns, altars, &c. Part of the invaluable collection of the great Earl of Arundel, which were lately presented by the Countess Dowager of Pomfret to the University of Oxford. The hall is a fine lofty room, and the great stairs are painted in fresco, by Sir James Thornhill.

At *Althorpe*, is a noble and ancient seat, which was rebuilt and greatly improved by Robert Earl of Sunderland, great-grandfather to the present Duke of Marlborough: here is a magnificent gallery, most handsomely furnished with a large collection of curious paintings, by the most eminent masters. The apartments are also richly fitted  
and

and decorated with other capital paintings, worthy the attention of the curious.

The house is situated in the midst of a noble park, laid out and planted after the manner of that at Greenwich; the design by the famous Le Notre, who planted St. James's park at Cassioberry, and several other parks and gardens in this kingdom.

In the park is a noble piece of water, with a fine vessel, compleatly equipped, riding on it. There is likewise on this stream a fine Venetian gondola. But tho' this piece of water has a fine effect, yet it is to be regretted, that its being too near the house occasions so great a damp, as to damage some of the pictures in the gallery.

The offices form an handsome square, at a convenient distance from the house, and adjoining is a large kitchen garden, finely walled and planted, in which is an handsome building for the residence of the gardener, which is a model of an Italian villa.

*Daventry*, twelve miles from Towcester, is a great thoroughfare, and well furnished with good inns, for the accommodation of travellers. It is governed by a mayor, aldermen and steward, with twelve freemen. Here was formerly a monastery of Augustine friars. The ancient Roman Watling-street was turned through it, and runs to Dunsmore Heath.

*Borough hill*, near Daventry, is noted for having been formerly a Roman camp. It was afterwards occupied and enlarged by the Saxons, who posted themselves in great numbers on this hill, to oppose the Danes, who at that time ravaged the kingdom, being the most advantageous spot to overlook the whole kingdom of Mercia. This camp contains about two hundred acres of ground, or three miles in compass, with a mount on the east side, called Spedwell.

After

## 44 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

After the Saxons, the Danes are supposed to have taken possession of this camp, and the people hereabouts vulgarly think, the neighbouring town of *Daintree* had its name from those people; the road hereabouts too being overgrown with Dane-weed, they fancy it sprung from the blood of the Danes slain in battle, and that if upon a certain day in the year you cut it, it bleeds; but as history is silent on this head, and there is no foundation to give credit that a battle was fought here, we shall not trouble our readers with idle conjectures. Great numbers of Roman coins have been dug up here and at *Daventry*.

In *Norton-town-road*, a Cornu Ammonis lies neglected, too big to bring away. And at *Weedon*, the site of King *Wolfhere's* palace is shewn; the Saxon King's of this province residing here.

The pastures, called the *Ashes*, are the Roman camp. *St. Werberg*, daughter of King *Wolfhere*, and abbess to the nunnery in this place, had here a chapel. Abundance of very fine stone, and many Roman coins have been dug up here.

*Morton*, in his Natural History of this county, gives us a description of a remarkable Roman pavement, discovered in the year 1699, in *Horsestone meadow*, at *Nethersly ford*. The work consisted of little bricks or tiles, artificially tinged with colours, as smooth as polished marble. This is imagined to have been the burial place of some Roman family, as they did not allow of interment in their cities.

The church at *Tbengford*, in this part of the county, is also supposed to have been built upon a burial place of the Romans; for in digging a grave in the church-yard, was found an urn, with ashes in it.

At *Calworth*, about six miles east of *Towcester*, and in its neighbourhood, are found the astroites,  
or

or star-stones. Astrop wells are noted for their mineral waters, much recommended for the scurvy, &c. Dr. *Willis* and Dr. *Lower* were the first that discovered their virtues.

North of Daventry, in the way to Harborough in Leicestershire, is

*Naseby*, which is said, by some, to stand in the centre, on the highest ground in England, and that therefore its present name is only a contraction of *Navelesby*. It is particularly remarkable for the fatal and bloody battle fought there June 14, 1695, between the royalists and the parliamentarians, where the wind-mill now stands. There are no traces of it remaining, but a few holes where the slain were buried.

At *Haselbeece*, near *Naseby*, is a very good house, built by Mr. *Ashby*. "It is most delightfully situated, and commands an extensive prospect; and from the opposite hills, the house (which is built of white stone) appears beautifully surrounded by a full grown dark wood. One instance (says Mr. *Young*) among many others of the advantage of placing a white building on an elevated situation in front of a dark shade.

"Sir James Langham, at *Croftwick*, in the vale, has made many great improvements: the house contains several spacious and well proportioned apartments, fitted up in the modern manner; the new chimney-pieces are elegant, and the stuccoed cielings in a new taste. There are several good pictures by masters of the Flemish school. The grounds are totally altered; the woods are in some places opened so as to let in views of the country, and also a winding lake has been lately made, contiguous to the park, and separated from it by a sunk fence. In full view of the house is a noble pasture, in which you see above an hundred large oxen; and four hundred fatting sheep;

a stroke



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a stroke of the eye commands above two thousand pounds worth of live stock, feeding on the waving slopes of a hill, most happily situated to enrich the views from the house."\*

*Northampton*, sixty-six miles from London, is the county town, and is situated at the conflux of the river Nen, and another rivulet. The town does not appear to be of any great antiquity. The first time we find it mentioned in history, is in 913, when King Edward subdued Turcicul, Duke of the Danes. The latter end of Henry III. it had the face of an University, by the conflux of some discontented scholars from Oxford and Cambridge, who prosecuted their studies here for three years and no longer; for an express prohibition was published, that no one should study here for the future as an university, it being a detriment to Oxford and Cambridge.

It was made the seat of war in the time of the commotions raised by the rebellious barons; its convenient situation in the heart of the kingdom, induced many of our kings to hold their parliaments here, and it has sent burgeses to parliament ever since Edward I.

In the year 1460, a battle was fought here, when Henry VI. was taken prisoner by Nevil Earl of Warwick.

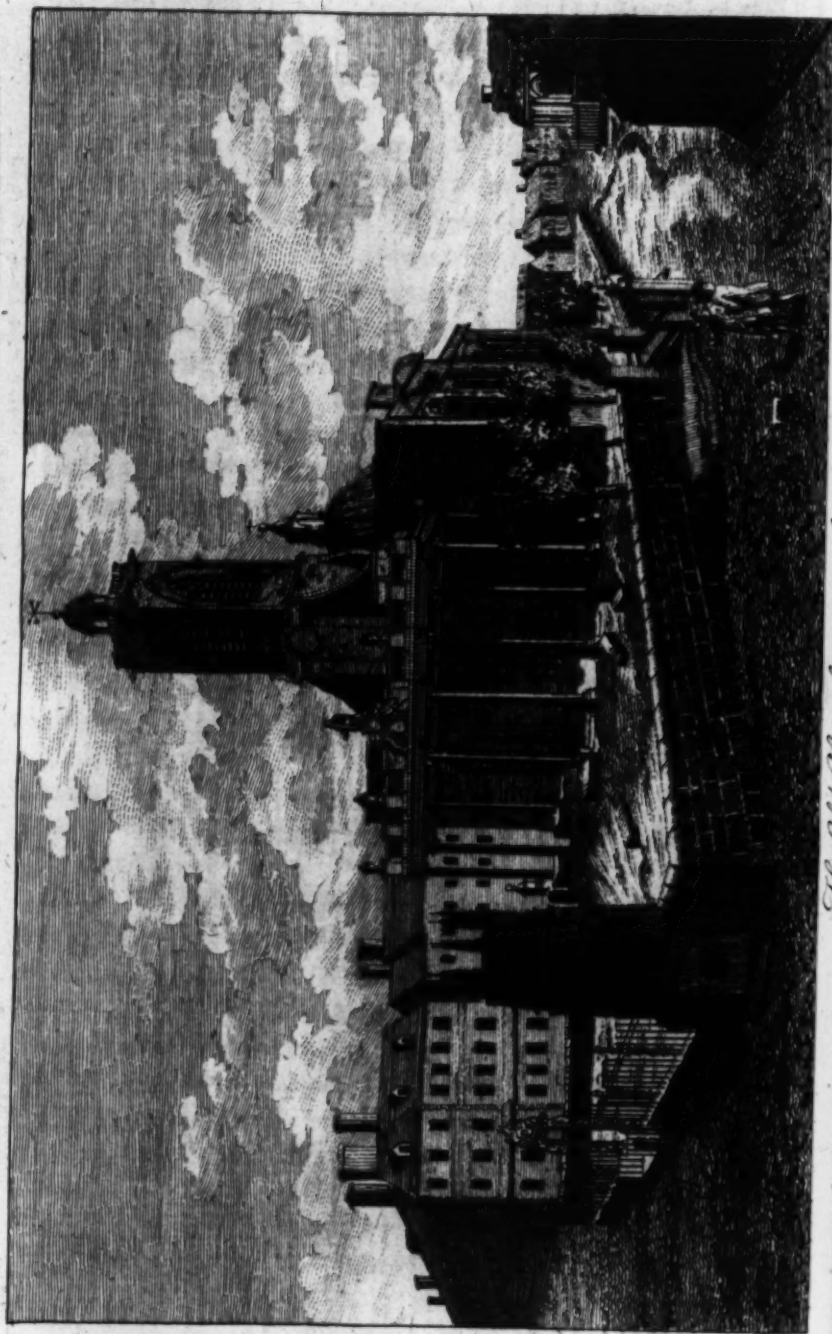
King James I. confirmed several of its ancient charters, and incorporated it by the name of a mayor, two bailiffs, four aldermen, twelve magistrates, a recorder, a town clerk, &c.

The buildings of this town were formerly very numerous, but a dreadful fire that happened September 3, 1675, laid the whole town in ashes, and would have totally ruined the inhabitants and

\* Mr. Young, in a noble picture, has represented the town as it appeared before the fire, and the view of the house from it by a tank tower.

buried





*The Old Church at Worthington*

buried the town in oblivion, had not the generous contributions from all parts the kingdom relieved the one, and restored the other. It now can vie with most towns in England for good buildings of brick and stone, and wide and spacious streets. Here are four parish-churches, All Saints, St. Giles's, St. Sepulchre's, and St. Peter's. All Saints, or All Hallows church, is an handsome edifice, with a cupola, and a noble portico before it of eight lofty Ionic columns: on the ballustrades is a statue of King Charles II. It stands near the centre of the town, at the meeting of four spacious streets. The market-place is large and square: the assize-house is built after the Corinthian order.

The river Nyne was by act parliament made navigable to this town, and the undertaking was completed August 7, 1761, when thirty-eight barges, laden with coal and other goods, came to the wharf at the south bridge, with great rejoicing. Over the river are two handsome bridges, walled in, and on the west side are the remains of an old castle, upon an eminence.

Among the many public buildings in this town, one claims particular notice; the George Inn, at the corner of the High-street, has more the look of a palace than an inn. It cost above two thousand pounds building, and as soon as it was finished, it is said, the owner, John Dryden, Esq. generously and charitably gave it to the poor of this town.

Great number of jockies resort here to purchase horses of all sorts, and indeed Northampton is reckoned the centre of all the horse markets and horse fairs in England. It had formerly a nunnery in the neighbouring meadows, and within half a mile of the town, King Edward I. erected one of the crosses in memory of his Queen Eleanor, whose



## 18 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

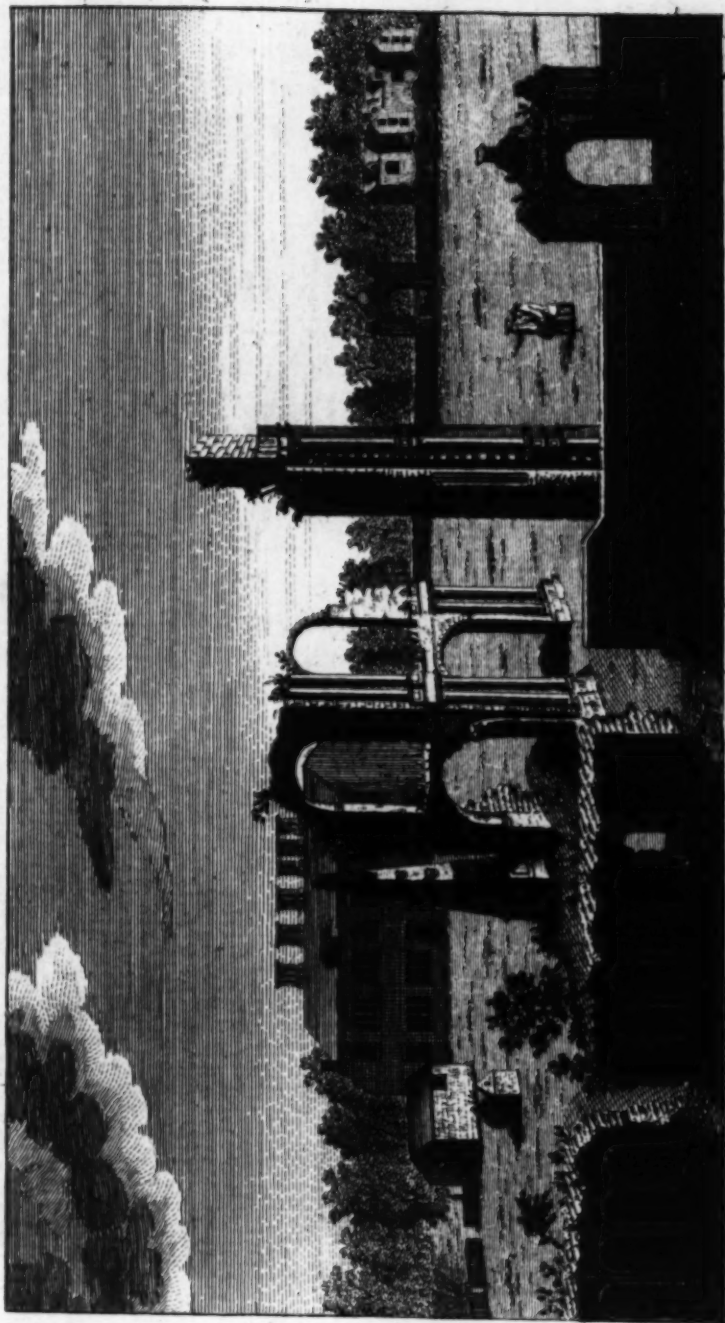
corple was rested there, in its way to Westminster. Hereabouts many Roman coins have been dug up.

Near Northampton is the ancient royal house of Holmeby, formerly in great esteem, and by its situation is capable of being made a royal palace, the whole estate was purchased by the late Duchess of Marlborough, and is at present in the possession of a farmer, part of the out-houses are pulled down, and the remaining part converted into barns, stables, &c.

A little west of Northampton, in the parish of Newbottle, was formerly a fortification called Rainsborough. Of which the following account is taken from a manuscript in *Asmole's Museum*:

"In the township of Charlton, and in the parish of Newbottle in Northamptonshire, there is on the top of a little hill, which has a prospect round about it, a camp with a double fortification. The ground upon it, which is a barren soil, hath, as it seems, been wold-land, or wood-land. The inner fortification is more than a quarter of a mile about, the outward half at least. This camp and hill is commonly called Rainsborough hill; yet some gentlemen in the neighbourhood would have it Dainesborough hill, as if it had been a camp of the Danes; but we are not to take notice of that, only what *Rain* signifies either in the Saxon or British tongue, or in the Danish.

"Within the memory of man, the land within the inward fortification, together with the inward fortification itself, hath been ploughed up by several persons, each having his lot allowed him. And a certain person of Charlton, who had the middle part allowed him, did not only plough up the middle part, but levelled the inward fortification so far as his share went. In digging down the said apartment, or allotment, there were discovered several iron pots, glasses, ashes. And the neighbourhood



*Holdenby Palace, Northamptonshire.*



hood of Charlton say it was an apothecary's shop. Whether this was a camp belonging to the Britains, who encamped themselves when the Romans invaded them within woods, or of the Saxons or Danes, is not positively asserted."

The great road to Hornby in Lancashire, enters this county at

*Wellingborough*, sixty-nine miles and a half from London. It stands on the west side of the river Nen. According to some it had its name from the many wells and springs in and about the town, some of which are medicinal; other antiquaries think it was first called *Wedlingborough*. Queen Mary, wife to King Charles I. lay many weeks in this town, to drink the waters. This town was first destroyed by the Danes, and it has since been consumed by a dreadful fire, which happened here in July, 1738. It began at a dyer's house in the town, about two in the afternoon, and in the space of six hours consumed near two hundred and twenty houses, besides out-houses, barns, stables, &c. amounting in the whole to upwards of eight hundred, mostly in the south and east parts of the town. It has since been rebuilt in a more beautiful manner, is populous, and carries on a great trade in corn; here is also a very considerable lace manufactory.

King John made this a market town, at the petition of the monks of Crowland, who were then possessed of the manor. The buildings are of a kind of red stone, and their foundation is chiefly on a red stone rock.

*Kettering*, seventy-seven miles from London, is pleasantly situate on a rising ground, by a river that runs into the Nen. This town is handsome and populous, and employs a great number of hands in the manufacture of serges, shalloons, and tam-mies. This woollen trade was introduced here by



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one Mr. Jordan. Here is a sessions-house for the county, a church, a small hospital, and a charity-school for twenty girls, who are taught, clothed and maintained, chiefly by contributions, and partly by what they earn in spinning of Jerfies.

Near this town, on the left, is

*Rothwell*, or *Rowell*, a pretty good market town, with a noted horse-fair. This town is called *Rodwell*, in Domesday-back. Here is a fine market-house, a square building of Ashler-stone, adorned with the arms of most of the principal gentry of the county. This building was contrived and carried on by Sir Lewis Tresham. Here was formerly a nunnery.

At *Oxendon*, near Kettering, is a remarkable echo that will repeat twelve or thirteen syllables very distinct, and is formed by the square tower of the church.

*Rockingham*, eighty-seven miles from London, is situate on the river Welland, and had a castle built by William the Conquer, which formerly belonged to the Earls of Albermarle. It stood upon a hill in a part called Rockingham forest, which, in the time of the ancient Britons, extended almost from the Welland to the Nen, and was famous formerly for iron works. Great quantities of *Slags*, i. e. the refuse of the iron ore is met with in the adjacent fields. It extended, according to a survey taken in 1641, near fourteen miles in length, from the west end of Middleton's woods to the town of Wonsford, and five miles in breadth from Brigstock to the Welland; but is now dismembered into several small parcels, by the interposition of fields and towns, and divided into three bailiwicks. In several of its woods great quantities of charcoal are made of the tops of trees, of which many waggon loads are sent every year to Peterborough. There is a spacious plain in it called Rockinghamshire, which is common to the four towns of Collingham, Rockingham,

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Rockingham, Corby and Gretton. King William Rufus, called the council here of the great men of the kingdom. In the town is a charity-school for twelve boys.

Returning again to the western part of the county, we meet with

*Higbam Ferrers*, seventy-one miles and an half from London. It is an ancient borough and corporation, situate on the east side of the river Nen, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, seven aldermen, and thirteen capital burgessees and commonalty. It took its latter name from the family of Ferrers, who had formerly a castle here, which stood near the church; and the former appellation from its being situate on a rising ground. Henry Chicheley, Archbishop of Canterbury, a native of this place, founded a beautiful college here, for secular clerks and pebendaries, as likewise an hospital for the poor. The town is small, but clean, dry, pleasant and healthful, and has a handsome church with a lofty spire.

Near this town is *Chester*, where was formerly a Roman camp of near twenty acres, inclosed with a strong wall; in the area of which have been found many coins, pavements, and other antiquities. Higher up is

*Thrapston*, commonly called *Thorpston*, seventy-five miles from London. This town is most pleasantly situate in a valley on the river Nen, over which it has a fine bridge. The situation both for air, water and soil, is so extremely desirable and pleasant, that a better retreat for those who chuse a country life, can scarce be found. Its river having been made navigable by act of parliament, boats came up to it for the first time in November, 1737, to the no small joy and convenience of the inhabitants of the town.

North

North of Thrapston, is

*Oundle*, eighty-one miles from London. The name is a contraction for *Aroundale*, and it is almost surrounded by the river Nen, over which it has two handsome bridges. The town is but small, yet it is uniformly built, with a neat church, a free-school, and an alms-house, founded by Sir William Laxton, Lord Mayor of London, and supported by the Grocers Company in London. The north bridge is particularly remarked by travellers for its number of arches, and the causey leading to it. This town is also noted for a well that sometimes makes a drumming noise, which the country people think presages a war or some great calamity.

*Fotheringhay Castle*, about three miles from Oundle, on a branch of the river Nen; is noted for being the place where King Richard III. was born, and for the imprisonment and decollation of Mary Queen of Scots. It seems to have been very strong, and had a high mount or keep, surrounded with a deep ditch, but it is for the most part demolished, and the materials carried off. Some say it was destroyed by order of King James I. in revenge for his mother's sufferings. It was formerly the seat of Edmund Langley, Duke of York, whose body was buried in the collegiate church here; a very fine building, founded by Edward Duke of York in 1415, wherein were magnificent monuments for himself and his nephew, Richard Duke of York; of whom the former was killed at the battle of Agincourt, and the latter at Wakefield. The chancel where they were buried was destroyed at the suppression; but the monuments were restored by Queen Elizabeth. The church windows are filled with handsome painted glass, saved by a sum of money to the soldiery in the civil war. The figures represented are St. Denys, St. Guthlac, Archbishop Scrope, &c.

From

From Stilton in Huntingdonshire, the great road to Lincoln and Scarborough, runs through Yoxley, and enters this county at

*Peterborough*, eighty-two miles from London. This is a city of great antiquity, but it is the least and the poorest bishoprick in the kingdom. It takes its name from a monastery begun here by Penda and finished by Wulpher, two Kings of the Mercians, about the year 655. To this monastery the abbot of Croyland and his monks fled for protection in 870, but they were overtaken and murdered in a court called the Monks Church-yard, because they were all three buried there. Soon after this the Danes destroyed both monastery and monks, so that it lay destitute for above an hundred years. Then Ethelwald, Bishop of Winchester, rebuilt it, and restored the monks, who lived very sumptuously, with a mitred abbot at their head, till the dissolution, when Henry VIII. converted the abbey into a bishop see.

This city, though small, is far from contemptible; the streets are fair and well built; and the inhabitants carry on a considerable trade, especially in the woollen manufacture, either of cloth or stocking. The river Nen is navigable to it by barges, so that they import coal, corn, &c. and export great quantities of malt, &c.

The chief structure in, and indeed the glory of, Peterborough, is its cathedral, a most noble Gothic fabric, said to be above a thousand years old, tho' it seems to be of a more modern date. It was much defaced in the civil wars, when the religious bigots deprived it of many considerable ornaments. Its length from east to west is an hundred and sixty yards, in breadth fifty-two, and height of the highest spire sixty-two yards and a foot. The west front is particularly beautiful, and the most stately of any in England, being supported by three of the tallest  
arches



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arches that are to be seen, and columns curiously adorned. The windows of the cloisters are finely stained with scripture history, with the figure of its founder, and the succession of its abbots.

There are many good monuments in this cathedral, but the most noted is that of Queen Catherine, who was divorced from Henry VIII. This is not extraordinary magnificent, but far from mean. Mary Queen of Scots was likewise buried here; whose body is said by some to have been removed to King Henry the Seventh's chapel, Westminster abbey, and a monument erected over it, by order of her son, King James I. while others as strongly affirm, that her corpse still remains in this cathedral.

At the west end is the figure of old Scarlet, formerly sexton of this church. The present painting is from one still more ancient, destroyed by time and damp, the fragments of which are still to be seen: this is a whole length furnished with the insignia of the office, such as the mattock, spade, &c. He buried the above named two Queens, one fifty years after the other. Under the picture are the following lines:

“ You see old Scarlet's picture stand on hie,  
But under your feet there doth his body lie;  
His grave-stone doth his age and death-time shewe,  
His office by his tokens you may know.  
Second to none for strength and sturdye limm,  
A scare-babe, mighty voice, with visage grim;  
He had interr'd two Queens within this place,  
And this townes house holders in his live's space,  
Twice over; but at length his own turne came,  
What he for others did, for him the same  
Was done: no doubt his soul doth live for aye  
In heaven; though here his body's clad in clay.

On

On a square stone below,

July 2, 1594,

R. S.

Ætatis 98.

The chapel here, called St. Mary's, is a very curious building, though now no longer in use. The choir has been often repaired and beautified, and is now very fine; but the most curious part of the structure, is the west end or great gate, which is admired by the curious, for a prodigy of beauty and variety. This church, when a monastery, was remarkable for its great revenues.

This city was incorporated by King Henry VIII. in the year 1541. Its peculiar jurisdiction extends over thirty-two towns and hamlets, in all which places the civil magistrates appointed by the Royal commission, are vested with the same power as judges of assize, and hold in this city their quarterly sessions of oyer and terminer, &c. The corporation is vested in a mayor, aldermen, recorder, &c. and it sends two members to parliament.

Here are two charity schools, one founded and endowed by Mr. Thomas Deacon of this city for twenty boys; who after being taught to read and write, are put out apprentices; and another for teaching forty poor children to spin and read, the charge of whose education is chiefly defrayed by their own labour.

Near Peterborough, is a little village called *Castor*, the ancient *Durobrivæ* of the Romans, and the *Dormancester* of the Saxons, though *Dornford* retains somewhat of the old name, where the Harman-street crossed the river by a bridge of brass, according to the vulgar. At *Chesterton* is a large tract of ground, called the Castle Field, with a ditch and rampart round it. The Roman road runs directly

directly through it, and still retains its high ridge. Beyond the river it extends for some space upon the meadow along the bank, then forms an angle, and proceeds full north. Castor is above half a mile from it, upon the hill. A part of the foundation of the wall of the old Roman camp is still visible in the street to the north-west corner of the church, under the wall of the house where the minister lives. It may be known by the great strength of the mortar, built of the white slab stone of the country. Underneath this lay the city; for below the churchyard the ground is full of foundations and mosaics.

There is a piece of old Roman pavement in the cellar of the Boot alehouse, as there are many also in other places, and in a garden an intire one. Great numbers of Roman coins have been discovered, especially in that part of a field betwixt the town and the river, called Berrysted-place, where they have been turned up in such vast quantities; that a man would really think, to use Mr. *Camden's* expression, they were sown there. In the higher part of the field, likewise called Mill-field, pavements and coins have been ploughed up, and there is a tract which runs quite through this field; it is called Lady Conyburrow's way, a corruption made by the country people for Lady Kyneburga: this is only an old pavement, and the road laid with a deep bed of gravel; this causing it to be nearly barren, makes the superstitious vulgar believe it to have been cursed by the above lady, who relate the following traditionary story, of its having been called after her name. viz.

“ Lady Kineburga having had her honour attempted, fled from the ruffian through those fields; and that the path she took was thus miraculously marked out, as a trophy of her purity and innocence, to be seen in future ages, and be distinguished by the name of Kineburga's way. However,

ever, it is certain, that this lady was greatly esteemed for her chastity and extraordinary sanctity. And it is probable, says *Morton*, that the people, observing the remains of a street, or causey, in the field, the memory of the famous saint being fresh in their minds, and that of the Roman city quite lost, they attributed that to the former which belonged to the latter."

The above lady built a religious house, which stood east of the church, and some part of it still remains. This meadow is now called *Norman Gate* instead of *Dorman Gate Field*; and the Roman coins found here are called *Dorman pence*, from *Caer Dorm*, or *Dormcaester*, the ancient name of the city that was built here.

Part of the church is an antique building, but new modelled. Upon a stone over the choir door is a curious inscription, importing, that the church was consecrated on the 17th of April, 1114. The steeple stands in the middle of the church. The tower is a fine piece of ancient architecture, with semi-circular arches. The square well by the porch is Roman, surrounded with hewn stone; and though it stands on a hill, the water is very high. At the east end of the church is a very old cross.

A little higher up the river, near Wonsford-bridge, a gold coin was found, which was in the possession of Mr. Maurice Johnson, an eminent counsellor.

The whole town of Castor takes in three squares of full three hundred feet each, two of which are allotted to the castle; the third is an area lying to the east before it. From under the castle walls, almost quite round, rise many quick springs; but of these the Syfor spring is the most noted, having now four fluxes of water, from between the joints of great stones, laid flat like a wall, and joined together with lead, probably by the Romans, being un-



der their wall. It is very pleasantly over-shaded by trees. Its name is Saxon, which signifies *pure*, which appellation it well deserves. The Roman way is still to be seen, and is now called the Forty-foot-way, passing from Gunworth Ferry and Peterborough to Stamford. This, as the antiquaries are of opinion, was the great road into the north, which is since turned from Stilton in Huntingdonshire, to Wandsworth or Wandsford, where is a very good bridge over the river Nyne; which, coming down from Northampton, as we have observed already, passed thence by Peterborough, and so into the Fen country. But we are of opinion, neither this nor Wandsford was the ancient northern road used by the Romans; for it is evident, that the great Roman causeway is still seen on the left-hand of that road, and passing the Nyne at a place called Water-Newton, went directly to Stamford, and passed the Welland, just above that town, but not in the place where the bridge stands now; and this Roman way is still to be seen, both on the south and north side of the Welland, stretching itself on to Brig Caster-ton, a little town upon the river Guash, about two miles beyond Stamford; which was, as all writers agree, another Roman station, and was called Guafennæ by the antients, from whence the river is supposed also to take its name; whence it went on to Ponton, another very considerable colony, and so to Newark, where it crossed the Fosse.

Hence the road goes by Stretton; then leaves, a little on the left-hand, *Coltsworth*, highly memorable for being the birth-place of the great philosopher Sir Isaac Newton.

This Forty-foot way then must be a cross road from Castor, and by that from the Fen country, so leading into the great highway at Stamford: as likewise another cross road went out of the said great road at Ponton, a village of great antiquity near Grantham,

Grantham, to the town of Ancaster, where a Roman cohort was stationed, and thence joined the Fosse again at Lincoln.

Near this village of Castor, at a place called Milton, lives Earl Fitzwilliam. The late Earl some years ago built a fine stone bridge over the river Nyne, near Gunworth, where formerly was a ferry.

As we pass by Burghley park wall, on the great road, we see on the west side, not above a mile from it, another house built by the same Lord Burghley, and which might pass for a very noble seat, were not Burghley by.\* This is called *Wathop*, and stands on the great Roman way, mentioned above: this is the house of which the old Earl is reported to have said, he built it to "remove to, and to be out of the dust while Burghley-house was sweeping."

Near Peterborough, at *Thorp* the seat of Sir Francis St. John, a mosaic pavement was discovered in the year 1720. This is supposed to have been a villa of some Roman of distinction. In the garden are some fine antique marble statues, which suffer more from the weather than from age. In the middle is a Livia of a collossan proportion: in the four quarters, Diana, Amphitruon, an Orator and a Gladiator: upon the terraces, an admirable Hercules killing the Hydra. In the court, two equestrian figures in copper, King Henry IV. of France and Don John of Austria. Over most of the doors of the house are placed bustos of Bassianus, Caracalla, and others. The antiquities were of the Arundel collection.

Other places of note in this county, which remain to be observed, are

\* Vide page 316, Vol. III.

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*Brackley*, sixty-four miles from London. Its name signifies a place full of brake or fern, according to *Camden*. It is situated near the head of the Ouse, on the borders of Oxfordshire, and is supposed to be the third borough erected in England. It was formerly a famous staple for wool, by the removal of which it declined. It is a corporate town, governed by a mayor, six aldermen, and twenty-six burgessees. Here are two parish churches, it formerly had a college, which is now converted into a free grammar school.

*Boughton* or *Buckton* Church, which stands about three miles and a half of the town of Northampton, is a venerable and picturesque ruin, which has escaped the notice of several who have written the history of this county. It was dedicated to St. John the Baptist. Great part is now fallen to decay, the tower and spire is still remaining. In the church-yard is the following epitaph :

“ Time was I stood where thou dost now,  
And view'd the dead, as thou dost me,  
E're long thou'lt lie as low as I,  
And others stand and look on thee.”

*Boughton*, the noble seat of the late Duke of Montague, is worthy the traveller's notice. The house is handsome, but the situation not the most eligible in this county. It was erected by the first Duke of Montague, somewhat after the model of the palace at Versailles; the treble wings projecting, and expanded, forming a cone, or space, wider and wider, in proper stades, answering to the wings, the body of the house closing the whole view.

The hall is a very noble room; on the ceiling is a convocation of the gods, admirably painted, as are many suits of rooms, stair-cases, galleries, &c.  
besides

besides a great number of portraits and other capital pictures. The gardens contain ninety acres, adorned with statues, flower-pots, urns, of marble and metal, many large basons with variety of fountains playing, aviaries, reservoirs, fish-ponds, canals, wildernesses, terraces, &c. The cascade is very fine, and a river running the whole length of the gardens, is diversified most agreeably to complete its beauty.

The park is walled round with brick, finely planted with trees, and in excellent order; the whole forming a delightful retreat.

At *Geddington*, about a mile from Boughton, stands another of the stone crosses, erected by King Edward I. in memory of his Queen Eleanor.

There is also a stone cross at *Willoughby*, one stone is five yards long. It had like to have fell a victim to the fanatical rage of the parliament's soldiers, who had tied ropes about it to pull it down, had not the vicar harangued them on its innocence, and quenched their fiery zeal with the more potent argument of strong beer.

At *Cossington*, near the river Wreke, is a vast barrow, three hundred and fifty feet long, an hundred and twenty broad, forty high or near it, very handsomely worked up on the sides, and very steep. It is called *Shipley-bill*, from a great captain of that name; who is said to have been buried here. On the top are several oblong double trenches cut in the turf, where lads and lasses of the adjacent villages meet on Easter Monday, to recreate themselves with cakes and ale.

At *Eadborough*, is a strong Roman camp eight hundred feet long. It commands a delightful prospect. Near it is a petrifying spring.

Near *Goldborough*, between the springs of the Avon and Nen, was a Roman camp, which situation



tion was the more remarkable, as it was the only pass between the north and south parts of England, not intercepted by any river. The camp was secured only by a single intrenchment, but that very broad and deep.

*Newport*, on the borders of Staffordshire, is a little market town, where is one of the noblest foundations for a school in the whole kingdom, endowed by Mr. Adams, a Haberdasher of London, to the value of seven thousand pounds. The school is seventy feet long, twenty-two wide, and the same in height, a library, an house for both the master and usher, forty pounds a year to the first, and twenty to the other, and a garden to each house of an acre, and two acres for the boys to play in. near it he has likewise built an alms-house, and gave five hundred and fifty pounds towards building the town-house. Over the school door is this distich :

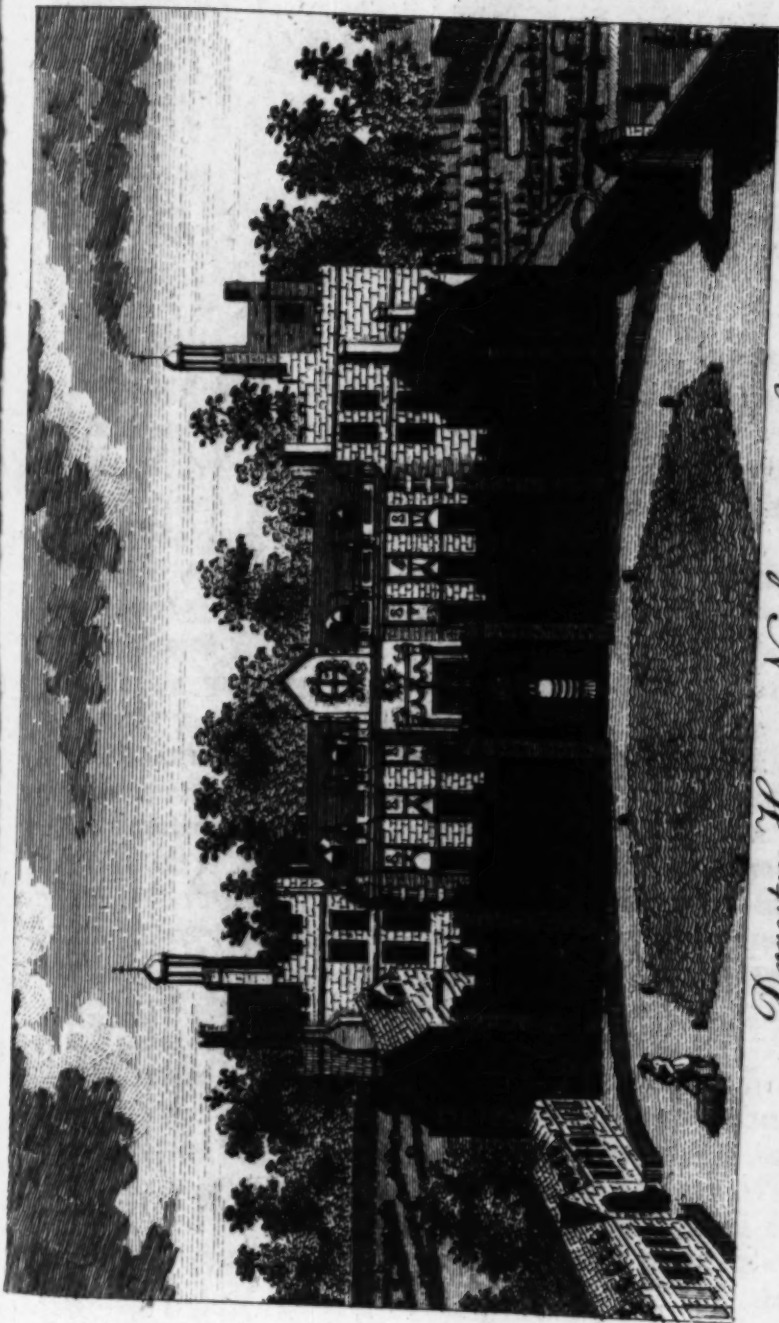
Scripsisti hæredem patriam, tibi quæ dedit ortum :

Scriberis ergo tuæ jure patriæ.

That is,

Thy country is thy heir ; and therefore we  
Justly esteem thy country's parent thee.

Near it is Drayton, fourteen miles from Northampton, an old venerable structure, belonging to the Earl of Peterborough. The front is exceedingly regular, with two wings on each side, from the summit of each wing rises a kind of tower, capped with a spire, and environed with battlements. The lawn before the house is spacious ; the gardens extensive and well laid out.



*Drayton House Northamptonshire.*



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## MIDLAND CIRCUIT.

### RUTLANDSHIRE,

**T**HIS is the least of all the counties in England, and before the Conquest is said to have been part of Northamptonshire; as it is no where found to be named as a distinct county, for a long time after the coming in of the Normans.

Its form is nearly circular, encompassed on the east and south with Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire, with Leicestershire on the south and west, and with part of Leicestershire and Lincolnshire on the north.

According to Mr. *Templeman's* calculation, it is fifteen miles in length, ten in breadth, and its area an hundred and thirty-six square miles, which others compute at an hundred and ten thousand acres, and make it forty miles in circumference. In this compass it contains about three thousand three hundred houses, two market towns, five hundreds, and forty-eight parishes, but more parks than any shire in England for its bigness.

The air is sweet and healthful, it being quite free from the fogs and mists that rise from ditches, moors and large rivers, there being but one stream in the whole county that deserves the name of a river, and this is commonly called the Guash or Wash, which crosses the shire from east to west, in  
the



the middle of it, though there are several brooks that run into it from most parts of the county, by which the inhabitants are supplied with water as wholesome as the air, and with plenty of fresh fish, and almost all the south and east parts in particular, have good supplies from the river Welland, which separates it from Northamptonshire and Leicestershire.

The soil is very fruitful both in corn and pasture; which feeds many cattle, especially sheep, whose wool is observed to be more red than in any other county, which colour is attributed to the redness peculiar to the soil. The vale of *Catmoss* in particular, where the town of Okenham stands, is not the least inferior in fertility to the Vales of White-horse and Belvoir. It also produces abundance of wood for firing.

This county is included in the See of Peterborough, and subject to the jurisdiction of the Archdeacon of Northampton. It gives title of Duke to the family of Manners, but sends no more members to parliament than the two knights of the shire.

Rutland was never pestered with monasteries, reckoned as one of the greatest happiness this county has enjoyed.

After having crossed the river Welland and Eye, in the road from Rockingham, we enter this county at *Caldecot*, about four miles from whence, is

*Uppingham*, ninety-two miles from London. It is the second town of the county, and the only remaining one that has a market. The town is neat, compact and well built, and has a well frequented market for cattle, corn, &c. Mr. *Camden* is of opinion, that it owes its name to its situation on a rising ground. Here is an hospital and a free-school built by Mr. Johnson, the minister of North Luffenham, in 1584; he also founded the school at Okeham. By a statute of Henry VII. the standard

of

of the weights and measures of this county, was appointed to be kept in this town. Its church is a rectory, of which the Bishop of London is patron. The Brand here is noted for horse-races.

Near this place is *Lydington*, noted for an hospital or alms-house, which was founded by Thomas Lord Burleigh, for a warden, twelve poor men and two poor women, which he called Jesus's hospital. It was formerly a palace of the Bishop of Lincoln, who had also a market here.

*Okeham*, ninety-eight miles and a quarter from London, is the capital town of the county, it being the shire town for the assizes, and for transacting all other public affairs. It is finely situated in the rich valley of Catmofs.

In the reign of King Richard II. an hospital was founded here, by William Dalby, of Exton, for twelve poor men, and two chaplains, to pray for the good estate of the King and his Queen, and after their death for their souls; and in like manner for the founder and his wife, whose daughter and heiress was married to Roger Flore, or Flower, whose family had a seat and a freehold estate here of above an hundred acres of land. This hospital is still in being, but extremely decayed and impoverished, and different from its first institution.

About the year 1584, Mr. Johnson, minister of North Luffenham, by his charitable collections, and especially by the help of concealed lands, which he begged of Queen Elizabeth, built and endowed an hospital here, called Christ's hospital, and a free school.

This town is particularly remarkable for an ancient custom still kept up, viz. That the first time any peer of the realm comes through this town, he shall give an horse-shoe to nail upon the castle gate, and if he refuse, the bailiff of the manor has power to stop his coach, and take one off from one or

other of his horses; but this is generally compounded for with money, and in proportion to the sum given, a shoe is made bigger or less, with the donor's name, and the date of the gift stamped upon it, and then nailed to the castle hall gate. Some of them are gilt, and curiously wrought, and over the judge's seat, where he sits at the assizes, there is one of very curious workmanship, which is five feet and a half in length, and of a proportionable breadth. It is not doubted but this custom is derived from the ancient Lords of the town of the Ferrers family, whose arms are three horse-shoes, whose name imports smiths, or workers in iron, who are horse-shoe makers.

In the year 1619, the famous dwarf, Jeffery Hudson, was born here; he was scarce eighteen inches in height when he was a year old, though his father was lusty, as were all his other children. The dwarf being taken into the family of the late Duke of Buckingham, at Burleigh on the Hill, and the court being then on a progress there, he was served up to table in a cold pye. Between the seventh and thirtieth year of his age, he did not grow much, but a little after he shot up to three feet nine inches, the statue which he remained in till his death.

After the marriage of King Charles I. with Henrietta Maria of France, he was presented to that Queen, who kept him as her dwarf. When the civil war broke out, he was a captain of horse in the King's service, but going with the Queen into France, killed the brother of Lord Crofts in a combat on horse-back, for which he was expelled the court; upon which he went to sea, was taken by a Turkish pirate, and after having remained a slave many years in Barbary, was redeemed and came to England, where he lived several years, upon pensions from the Duke of Buckingham and  
other

other noblemen, but being a papist was taken up in 1678, for the popish plot, and put into the Gatehouse, where he lay a considerable time, but was at last discharged, and died in 1682.

The people of these parts used to go in pilgrimage to a spring in this parish, called Our Lady's Well, where offerings were made to the Virgin Mary and St. Michael the Archangel. All Saints church is a fine structure, with a spire. A charity school was opened here in 1711, for teaching twelve boys and as many girls, who are all clothed, and the latter taught to sew, knit and spin. The assizes are held in the shire hall in the castle.

*Cottesmore*, in the hundred of Alstow, is memorable for the charity of the Lady Harrington, of Exton, who in 1616 purchased a rent-charge of an hundred pounds a year, to be issuing out of this manor, and left it to be divided quarterly for ever, among the poor of seven parishes in this county.

*Market*, or *Marged Overton*, in the same hundred, had the latter name from its situation on a hill. Mr. *Camden* supposes this to be the Marigidunum of Antoninus, which is the more probable, from the great quantity of Roman coins that have been found here, for the exact correspondence from the distance of other stations, and from the British word *Margæ*, i. e. limestone, with which the inhabitants manure their grounds.

This county, though small, is famous for abundance of fine seats of gentlemen, and some of the first rank; as, particularly, the Earls of Gainborough and Winchelsea. The last is an ancient seat erected by John Lord Harrington. There was a garrison in it for the parliament in the civil wars, but on the army being too far off to support it, as soon as the King's forces came, they quitted it after setting fire to the house and rich furniture. The stables only escaped.

The



The late Earl of Nottingham, at a very great expence, rebuilt the ancient seat of Burghley on the Hill, near Okeham, and on the edge of the Vale of Catmoss. This situation is as fine as most in England, and the house is worthy of the situation. The house is noble, with curious paintings, a fine library, and delightful gardens, park, &c.

At *Lyndon*, in this little county, are deposited the remains of the learned Mr. William Whiston, with the following memorial of him :

“ Here lies the body of the Reverend Mr. William Whiston, M. A. some time professor of the mathematics in the University of Cambridge; who was born Dec. 9, 1657, and died Aug. 22. 1752. in the eighty-fifth year of his age.

“ Endued with an excellent genius, indefatigable in labour and study, he became learned in divinity, antient history, chronology, philosophy and mathematics.

“ Fertile in sentiment, copious in language, skilful to convey instruction, he introduced the Newtonian philosophy, then buried in the deep recesses of geometry, into public knowledge; and thereby displayed the wonderful works of God.

“ More desirous to discover his will, he applied himself chiefly to the examination and study of the holy scripture. Resolved to practice it, he sacrificed great worldly advantages, and greater expectations, that he might preserve the testimony of a good conscience.

“ Firmly persuaded of the truth and importance of revealed religion, he exerted his utmost abilities to enforce the evidence, to explain the doctrine, and to promote the practice of christianity; worshipping, with the most profound submission and adoration, the supreme Majesty of one God and Father of all, through the intercession and mediation of our Lord Christ Jesus, by the grace and influence of the Holy Spirit; and testifying the sincerity

cerity of his profession by the due obedience of an holy life.

“ Strictly tenacious of his integrity, equally fervent in piety and charity, ardent to promote the glory of God, and the good of mankind, zealous in the pursuit of truth, and practice of virtue, he persevered with faith and patience, stedfast and unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, through many trials and much tribulation, to the end of his course, full of days, and ripe for paradise, in a firm assurance of a joyful resurrection to everlasting life and happiness.

“ Remember, reader, whoever thou art, if thou canst not attain to the measure of his learning and knowledge, that it is in thy power to equal him in piety, probity, holiness, and other christian graces, and that thou may’st thereby obtain, together with him, through the mercies of God, and merits of Christ. a place in the Kingdom of Glory.”



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## NORFOLK CIRCUIT

*Comprehends the six following Counties, viz. Cambridgehire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Suffolk and Norfolk.*

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE,

**I**S bounded on the west by Huntingdonshire and Bedfordshire; on the south by Hartfordshire and Essex; on the north by Lincolnshire; and on the east by Norfolk and Suffolk. Mr. Templeman computes its extent as follows, forty miles in length, twenty-five in breadth, and an area of seven hundred and eight square miles. It lies in the diocese of Ely, and sends six members to parliament, viz. two for the shire, two for the University of Cambridge, and two for the town.

Its air and soil are very different, according to its different parts: the air is very good about Cambridge, and all the south and east parts; but damp and foggy, and therefore not so wholesome in the Isle of Ely, and other northern low watery tracts that are part of the great level of the fens, called Bedford Level, and often subject to inundations. The soil, however, in general is, very fruitful, the dry barren parts being greatly improved in some places, and the rents greatly advanced. Its chief commodities are, excellent good corn, especially barley,



barley, of which they make vast quantities of malt; cattle, butter, saffron, coleseed, hemp, fish, and wild-fowl. The principal manufactures of this county are paper and baskets.

Its greatest rivers are, 1. The Ouse, which rises in Northamptonshire; and, after having watered the counties of Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire, runs through this from west to east, dividing it into two parts, and is navigable from Cambridge to Lynn in Norfolk, when it falls into the ocean. 2. The Cam, so called by the Britons, to denote its crooked course, which rises in Hartfordshire, and falls into the Ouse at Streatham Meer, near Thetford. 3d. The Welland, which comes out of Northamptonshire, and runs into the German ocean, through the Wash. The others that deserve any mention are, the Glene, the Witham, and the Granta: that called Morton's Lean, now Peterborough river, embanked, is navigable from Wisbich to that city.

The Fens in *Camden's* time, were divided into isles, ditches and drains, the county being so situated as to be the drain of thirteen several counties; for all the water from the middle of England, except what is discharged by the Thames and Trent, falls for most part into these Fens. In the summer they abounded with pastures, but in the winter and wet seasons, they were so overflowed, that they looked like a sea; and their chief produce, besides fish and fowl, was sedges and turf for firing, reeds for thatching, and willows and osiers for baskets.

The greatest level of the fens, called Bedford Level, consists of about thirty thousand acres of marshy ground, in the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Huntingdon, Northampton and Lincoln, as well as this shire, and the Isle of Ely. These fens

fens are bounded on all sides except towards the sea, with high lands, which encompass it almost in the form of an horse-shoe. They appear to have been formerly dry land, by the ruins of houses, large trees, &c. and a smith's forge was once discovered about sixteen feet deep, with horse-shoes, and all the tools belonging to it. How, or when this, which was once reckoned a beautiful country, came to be so changed, history does not say; but it is supposed to have been owing to a violent breach or inundation of the sea, or the effect of one or more earthquakes. The inhabitants of the towns in and about the fens, suffered so much from the stagnated waters in the summer, and were put to such shifts in winter for provisions, that several attempts were made to drain them from the time of Henry VI. and divers commissions of sewers were granted for cleaning and opening the out falls of the water into the sea, but without success. In the reign of King Charles I. Francis Earl of Bedford, having agreed with the inhabitants to have ninety-five thousand acres of land, proceeded in this undertaking to the expence of ten thousand pounds himself and company; but, it not being sufficiently drained, the King himself undertook it for sixty-nine thousand acres more: by his death a stop was put to it, till William Duke of Bedford, in 1649, undertook it again for the former proportion of ninety-five thousand acres, and for about the sum of three hundred thousand pounds more it was completed, to the great advantage of the country, by making its air better, and its commodities cheaper, though to the ruin of many of the sharers, who had expended more money than the whole ninety-five thousand acres were worth. King Charles II. taking into consideration the great expence which had attended this work, as well as the vast importance of it, recommended the affair to his parliament,

K

who

who in the fifteenth of his reign, passed an act, entitled, " An act for settling the drains of the great level of the Fen, called Bedford Level ;" by virtue of which the bounds whereof were settled, and a corporation established for its government and preservation, consisting of a governor, six bailiffs, twenty conservators and commonalty, in whom by the said act are invested eighty-three thousand acres, part of the said ninety-five thousand acres to be held of the manor of East Greenwich, in free and common soccage. Of the remaining twelve thousand acres, ten thousand were vested in the King, who assigned the same to his brother, the Duke of York, and the two thousand residue to the Earl of Portland.

In these fens are several decoys, in which incredible quantities of wild fowl are taken during the season ; there being no less than three thousand couple a week generally sent up to London, from one single decoy not far from Ely.

Joining the road we left at Royston in Herts, we enter this county at the south-east part of it, and proceed on to

*Caxton*, forty-nine miles from London. It is a little market town between Royston and Huntingdon ; it is noted for having produced two very famous men, William de Caxton, the first Printer in England, who died in the year 1486, and the Historian, Matthew Paris.

The Roman way, called Ermine-street, passes from Arrington north-west, through Holm, into this town, and so on to Popworth, higher up in the same road. The three last mentioned places are villages only.

There are several gentlemens seats hereabouts, but the chief is Wimple-hall, formerly built at a vast expence, by a late Earl of Radnor. It is at present

present in the possession of the Earl of Hardwicke. Though an enormous expence has been laid out on this building, and the gardens, yet they can neither boast of much taste or beauty.

Great quantities of Saffron are grown in these parts, so that the market, which was formerly held at Saffron Walden in Essex, is now held at Linton, a small market town in this county, about five miles distance. This town is of no other note, except that a Roman military way falls into the Ikenning here.

The lands here are very much troubled with a bad weed, called melilot; whose seeds mixing among the corn in great quantities, gives the bread a nauseous taste, very disagreeable to strangers, though the inhabitants who are used to it do not complain of it.

Near this town is a noble seat of the Right Hon. Lord Montfort, called *Horsebeath-ball*. The house stands on an eminence, so as to command a prospect to the opposite side of the county, which is upwards of twenty miles. The building is lofty, and the apartments large; but the two stair-cases on each side of the hall, occupy such large spaces as to lessen the number of rooms, which, from the outward grandeur of the building, any person would naturally expect; insomuch that, on viewing the inside of the house, the spectator will be surprized to see the bulk of so large a front taken up by these stairs.

The hall is very noble, it is thirty-five feet square, and thirty feet high; the approach to this hall is by a noble flight of stone steps; the floor being elevated nine feet from the ground; so that the servants offices are below, on the level of the ground; but, besides these, there are two wings of offices of a large extent; so that the whole front is near five hundred feet in length: the park was not very large, but the late lord added more land to it; the roads

to



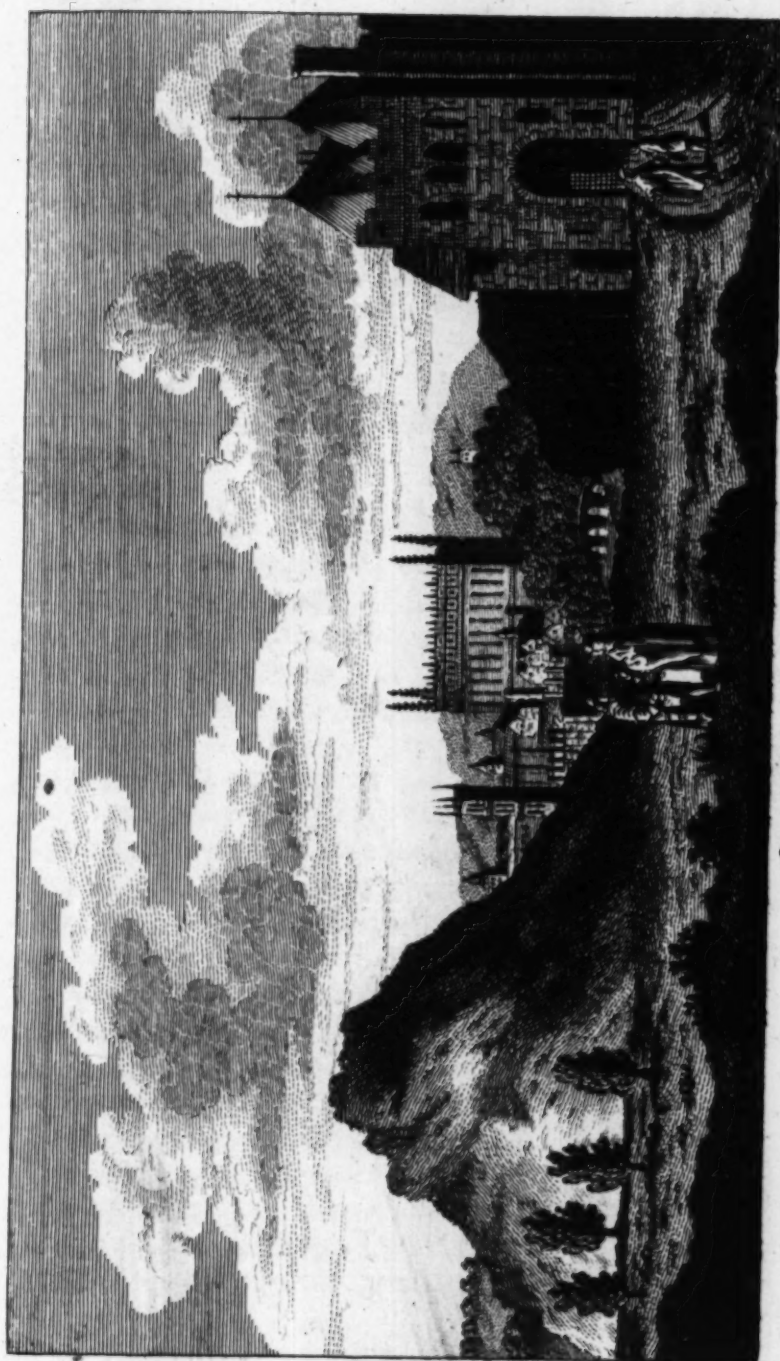
to this park from Linton, and through the park, are made very good, though it is in a very dirty country.

From Puckridge in Hartfordshire, the road leads to Lynn in Norfolk, passing through

*Cambridge* and *Ely*, in this county, the first of which is fifty-one miles from London. This town is famous for its University, and has a privilege of sending members to parliament, which *Ely*, though a city, has not.

The name is derived from its situation on the banks of the river *Cam*, which forms several islands on the west side, and divides the town into two parts, that are joined by a large stone bridge. It is so very ancient, that it was known in the time of the Romans, and is frequently to be met with in the oldest histories of Britain. It suffered much by the Danes, who kept a strong garrison here, till Edward the Elder took it in 921, to awe the rebellious monks of *Ely*. William the Conqueror erected a castle here, which was strong and stately, and had in it, besides other spacious apartments, a most magnificent hall. This being neglected, and the stones and timber made use of for building the chapel of King's Hall, there is now only the gate-house remaining, which is the prison, and an artificial high hill, on a steep ascent, and level at top.

After the death of William I. it was destroyed by fire and sword by Roger de Montgomery, to be revenged on King William Rufus; but Henry I. restored it, and granted it divers privileges, and incorporated the town. In the barons wars, the outlaws, who had taken a refuge in the Isle of *Ely*, frequently plundered it, till Henry III. secured it by a deep ditch, on the east side of the town, which still goes by the name of the King's Ditch. Wat Tyler and Jack Straw, in their rebellion against King Richard II. entered the town, and burnt the University records



*Cambridge Castle.*



cords in the market-place. The Jews being encouraged to come over by King William I. and II. were very populous in this town, for several generations. They inhabited all that part of it called the Jewry, and the round church is thought to have been the synagogue.

The town is governed by a mayor, high steward, recorder and thirteen aldermen, twenty-four common councilmen, and other officers. The mayor, at his entrance into his office on Michaelmas day, takes an oath to maintain the liberties, privileges and customs of the University.

Having spoken thus much of the town in general, we shall now take notice of the University and the buildings. The University is said to be very ancient, some tracing it down as far as the year 536, when, it is said, one Contaber, a Spaniard, founded it. However, to prove its antiquity, they produce a letter from Alcuinus, addressed "To the Cambridge Scholars." but we shall not enter the many lists of disputants, who idly engage about its first foundation, but proceed to the description of the several colleges.

The first public building we shall remark, is

#### THE SENATE-HOUSE.

A very elegant and magnificent structure; in length an hundred feet, in breadth forty-three and thirty-three high, the galleries and wainscot of Norway oak, beautifully carved; the gallery is supported by fluted pillars, and the cieling adorned with stucco work. In the middle of the north side is a beautiful statue of King George I. and on the south side, opposite to it, is another statue of Gloria, given to the University by Peter Burrell, Esq. fellow-commoner of St. John's college, in the year 1758.

The vice-chancellor's chair is at the west end, fronting the entrance, having some circular seats on the right and left-hand of it, for the heads, noble-  
men



men and doctors ; below them sits the regent, and at the east non-regents : near the right-side of the chancellor's chair is a robing room for the doctors, and on the left, a stair-case to ascend the gallery, and at the east end are two other stair-cases to ascend the same gallery, which will contain eleven hundred people.

The foundation of it was laid June 22, 1722. It is built with white Portland stone, adorned with pilasters between the double rows of sash windows ; the chapiters whereof are curiously carved, and a stone balustrade supports the top of it ; in the middle of the grand front towards the south, is a magnificent door and pediment, supported by four fluted pillars, the chapiters beautifully carved : at the east end is another grand door and pediment, supported by the like number of fluted pillars, which is the usual entrance at present. This is allowed by all good judges to be one of the most elegant rooms in the kingdom.

#### THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Was first built by Rotheram Archbishop of York, who, with Toustal Bishop of Durham, furnished it with choice books ; few whereof are at present to be met with ; but it contained, nevertheless, about fourteen thousand books, when his late Majesty King George I. was graciously pleased, in the beginning of his reign, to purchase the large and curious library of Dr. John Moor, Bishop of Ely, who died July 30, 1714, and as a mark of his Royal favour, to bestow it upon this University.

There have since been great additions and alterations made in the library, for the better disposition of the valuable royal present, which consisted of upwards of thirty thousand volumes, and cost the King seven thousand guineas.

The

The same beneficent King, not contented with having given this noble instance of his royal bounty to the University of Cambridge, in the year 1724, was graciously pleased to confer another mark of his favour upon them, and which extended to the University of Oxford, in creating a new establishment in a most useful branch of learning, which was much wanted, and for which till that time there had been no provision: this was, to appoint two persons, not under the degree of master of arts, or bachelor of laws, skilled in modern history, and in the knowledge of modern languages, to be nominated King's Professors of Modern History, one for the University of Cambridge, and the other for that of Oxford; who are obliged to read lectures in the public schools, at particular times; each of which professors to have a stipend of four hundred pounds per annum; out of which each professor is obliged to maintain, with sufficient salaries, two persons at least, well qualified to teach and instruct in writing and speaking the said languages, *gratis*, twenty scholars of each University, to be nominated by the King, each of which is obliged to learn two, at least, of the said languages.

The same excellent Prince was also pleased to appoint twelve persons, chosen out of each of the Universities, to be preachers in the royal chapel of Whitehall, at stated times, with handsome salaries; and declared, That he would cause a particular regard to be had to the members of the two Universities, in the dispositions of those benefices which fell into the royal gift.

A very fine marble statue, done by Rysbrack, of the late Duke of Somerset, who was Chancellor of this University for above sixty years was placed, in July 1756, in the senate-house at Cambridge, on the right-hand of the east door, just before the pillars that support the gallery at the end. It exhibits

hibits a noble figure of the Duke in the younger part of his life, raised on a square pedestal, and dressed after Vandyke's manner, with the ensigns of the order of the Garter, leaning in an easy posture on his left arm, and holding out a roll in his right-hand. The whole piece has a very graceful and majestic look, is extremely well executed, and does honour to the ingenious artist. It was a present made to the University by the Duke's illustrious daughters, the Marchioness of Granby and Lady Guernsey. The following inscription in capitals is set on the front of the pedestal :

C A R O L O  
 D V C I S O M E E R S E T E N S I  
 S T R E N V O I V R I S A C A D E M I C I D E F E N S O R I  
 A C E R R I M O L I B E R T A T I S P U B L I C A E V I N -  
 D I C I S T A T V A M  
 L E C T I S S I M A R V M M A T R O N A R V M M V N V S  
 L . L . P O N E N D A M D E C R E V I T  
 A C A D E M I A C A N T A B R I G I E N S I S  
 Q U A M P R A E S I D I O S V O M V N I V I T  
 A V X I T M V N I F I C E N T I A  
 P E R A N N O S P L V S S E X A G I N T A  
 C A N C E L L A R I V S .

*That is,*

To Charles Duke of Somerset, a strenuous defender of the rights of the University, a zealous assertor of public liberty, this statue, the gift of two most excellent matrons, was willingly and deservedly placed by the decree of the University, which he, Chancellor of it above fifty years, defended by his power, augmented by his munificence.

On

On the Reverse :

HANC STATVAM  
SVAE IN PARENTEM PIETATIS  
IN ACADEMIAM STUDII  
MONVMENTVM  
ORNATISSIMAE FAEMINAE  
FRANCISCA MARCHIONIS DE GRANBY  
CONIVX  
CHARLOTTA BARONIS DE GVERNSEY  
S. P. FACIENDAM CVRAVERVNT  
M.DCC.LVI.

*That is,*

This statue, a monument of filial duty to their parent, of their affection for the University, the most accomplished ladies, Frances, wife of the Marquis of Granby, Charlotte, of Lord Guernsey, caused to be erected at their own expence, 1756.

A fine statue of Fame was presented to the University, by Peter Burrell, Junior, Esq.

In the year 1766, his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, Chancellor of the University, placed a fine statue of King George II. in the Senate-house, opposite to that of his Royal Father King George I. as a monument of gratitude to his Royal Master, and of regard to the University. On the front of the pedestal is the following inscription:

GEORGIO SECUNDO,  
Patrono suo, optime merenti,  
Temper Venerando;  
Quod volenti populo,  
Justissime humanissime,  
In pace & in bello  
Feliciter imperavit;

L

Quod



Quod Academiam Cantabridgensem  
 Fovit, auxit, ornavit;  
 Hanc statuam  
 Æternum, faxit Deus, Monumentum  
 Grati animi in regem,  
 Pietatis in patriam,  
 Amoris in Academium,  
 Suis Sumptibus, ponituravit,  
 THOMAS HOLLES,  
 Dux de Newcastle  
 Academiæ Cancellarius,  
 A. D. 1766.

*That is,*

To George II. his ever reverend and truly deserving patron, 'who happily governed, most justly, and most clemently, a willing people, in peace and in war; who cherished, enriched, adorned, this University of Cambridge: this statue was erected as a lasting monument of his gratitude to the best of masters, of his piety to his country, and love to this University, at his own expence, by Thomas Holles, Duke of Newcastle, Chancellor of the University, the year 1766.

On the 29th of April 1755, his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, Chancellor of this University, attended by the heads and doctors, and almost all the members of the senate-house, proceeded from Clare-hall to the place intended for the erection of a new public library, and there his Grace, after a short address in Latin for success to the undertaking, laid the first stone, in the hollow part of which was placed a great number of gold and silver pieces of his late Majesty's coin; and in another part of it, a copper plate, with the following inscription:

Constantiæ

Constantiæ æternitæque sacrum  
 Latus hoc orientale Bibliothecæ publicæ  
 Egregia Georgii Imi  
 Britanniarum Regis  
 Liberalitate locupletatæ  
 Vetustate obsoletam instauravit  
 Georgii IIdi Principis optimi  
 Munificentia  
 Accedente  
 Nobilissimorum virorum  
 Thomæ Holles Ducis de Newcastle  
 Academiæ Cancellarii  
 Philippi Comititis de Hardwick Angliæ Cancellarii  
 Academiæ summi Seneschalli  
 Ac plurimorum Præsulum optimatum  
 Aliorumque Academiæ fautorum  
 Propensa in rei literariæ incrementum  
 Splendoremque benignitate  
 Lapideum hunc immobilem  
 Operis exordium  
 Ipsius auspiciis susceptis  
 Auctoritate, patrocinio, procuratione,  
 Feliciter, Deo propitio, perficiendi,  
 Circumstante frequentissima Academicorum Corona;  
 Prid. Kalend. Maii, M,DCC,LV.  
 Sua manu solemniter posuit  
 Academiæ Cancellarius

*That is,*

Sacred to constancy and eternity. This east side of the public library, enriched by the singular liberality of George I. King of Great Britain, when decayed with age, was rebuilt by the munificence of the best of Princes George II. with the additional bounty of the most noble Thomas Holles, Duke of Newcastle, Chancellor of the University, Philip Earl of Hardwicke, Lord High Chancellor of England, High-steward of the  
 the

the same, of several eminent prelates, and other patrons of the University, warmly affected to the increase and splendor of learning. This immovable stone, the beginning of the work, under the said auspices, authority, patronage, and procuration undertaken, and, by God's help, to be happily perfected, in presence of a numerous assembly of the gentlemen of the University, the Chancellor thereof laid solemnly, with his own hand, on the last day of April, 1755.

Some other benefactions to this University, within these few years past, are as follow :

On the death of Mrs. Addenbroke, March 1720, widow of an eminent physician of that name, the sum of about four thousand pounds devolved to this University ; which, by the doctor's will, was to be applied to the building and furnishing a physical hospital in Cambridge, in which poor diseased people were to be admitted for cure *gratis*. The master and fellows of Catherine-hall were appointed trustees of this charity. This hospital was erected a few years after ; but one of the executors of Mrs. Addenbroke, in whose hands the money was lodged, failed, which put a stop to the completing of this building. But in the year 1758, the University having obtained a decree in Chancery for a sum of money arising from the estate of the trustee, in whose hands the money had been, they finished the building with it. Dr. Walker, sub-master of Trinity-college, who died December 15, 1764, in his life-time purchased for sixteen hundred pounds, a spot of ground for a physic-garden, and made a donation of it to the University, and by his will left fifty pounds a year for the support of it. It has attained a very great degree of perfection.

Dr. John Woodward, who died April 25, 1728, left to the University of Cambridge a sum of money,  
for

for erecting a Professorship for Natural Philosophy, with the provision of an hundred and fifty pounds per annum, for the support and maintenance of the same for ever. He likewise bequeathed to the said University his collection of fossils and other natural curiosities, and such a part of his library moreover, as was necessary to illustrate his said collection.

### I. PETER-HOUSE,

Which was founded by Hugh Balsham, Bishop of Ely, Anno 1257, when only Prior of Ely. But at first the scholars had no other conveniencies than chambers, which exempted them from the high rates imposed on them by the townsmen for lodgings. The endowment was settled by the same Hugh, when Bishop, Anno 1284. for a master, 14 fellows, &c, which number might be encreased or diminished according to the improvement or diminution of their Revenues.

The hall or dining-room is a neat apartment.

The new building, erected of late years, is most elegantly fitted up, and from the upper apartments there is an extensive view, both north and south, for many miles over the adjacent country.

The lodge is large, and contains many good and handsome apartments.

The combination, commonly called the stone-parlour, where the fellows meet for business and recreation, joins to the hall, and is tolerably large and wainscotted; the two upper pannels round the room are filled with portraits of benefactors, masters, and others.

The library is a handsome room.

### 2. CLARE-HALL

Was founded in the year 1340, by Richard Badew, Chancellor of the University, and, in the year



year 1347, was rebuilt by Lady Elizabeth Burk, Countess of Clare, in Suffolk. He had before built an house called University-hall, wherein the scholars lived upon their own expence for 16 years, till it was accidentally destroyed by fire. The founder, finding the charge of rebuilding would exceed his abilities, had the kind assistance of the said lady, through whose liberality it was not only rebuilt, but endowed for the maintainance of one master, ten fellows, and ten scholars, and she gave it the name of Clare-hall. It has been lately new-built, all of free-stone, and is one of the neatest and most uniform houses in the University, and is delightfully situated, the river Cam running thro' the garden.

### 3. PEMBROKE-HALL

Was founded in the year 1343, by the Lady Mary St. Paul, Countess of Pembroke, third wife to Audomare de Valentia, Earl of Pembroke; who having been unhappily slain at a tilting on his wedding day, she intirely sequestered herself from all worldly delights, and, among other pious acts, built this college, which has been since much augmented by the benefactions of others.

This lady, among other public and pious institutions, founded Denny Abbey in this county, of the order of St. Clare, and filled it with an abbess and nuns; and kindly ordained that the fellows of her (then intended) college should visit those nuns, and give them *ghostly* counsel when occasion needed.

The chapel, which is one of the most elegant and best proportioned in the University, was wholly built by Matthew Wrenn, D. D. Bishop. of Ely, formerly of this house; who died at Ely-house, in Holborn, 1667, aged eighty-one, and his body (after it was embalmed) was deposited with great solemnity

solemnity in a stone coffin, in a vault at the east end of it. He consecrated it Sept. 21, 1665, being the feast day of St. Matthew, his name-sake, and dedicated it to the honour of Almighty God. A noble and lasting monument of the rare piety and munificence of this great and wise prelate, and in every point agreeable to his character! The building was executed according to a plan designed by that great architect Sir Christopher Wren, his brother's son, who also drew the model of St. Paul's, London. Several of the masters lie buried in it, but without any inscription.

The Library, which was the old chapel, is an elegant room, being well stocked with useful and choice books, which are as neatly ranged on handsome classes. Over the door there remains a mural monument thus inscribed,

*Siste paulum (viator) ubi longum sistere necesse erit.  
Hinc nempe properare tuscias,  
Quocunque te properas.*

The hall is a spacious room, and is handsomely paved; in it is often held a concert of music, the master having a good taste thereof and much delighting therein.

The master's lodge, which stands at the south end of the hall, and is almost hid by the other buildings, hath several good apartments, some of which are stocked with musical, and others with mathematical instruments; and in a ground room he had a printing press with the apparatus belonging thereto, wherein he printed his Astronomical Works. But the chief beauty of this lodge is, in my opinion, the gardens, and therein the water-works, which supply a beautiful and large bason in the middle of the garden, and wherein he often diverted himself in  
a machine

a machine of his own contrivance, to go with the foot as he rides therein:

The fellows garden is a large spot of ground wherein is a good bowling green; but what it is chiefly noted for, is a long and fine gravel walk; at the foot of a south wall, which is counted one of the warmest winter walks in the University.

There are besides several other gardens, belonging to the apartments of particular fellows, in one of which is another small and simple, yet well contrived water-work, which is continually supplying a large cold bath with fresh water; the overplus of which runs through the second court, and so into the King's-ditch.

#### 4. ST. BENNETS, OF CORPUS-CHRISTI COLLEGE,

Was founded by the society of friers of Corpus Christi, in the year 1344. This rose out of two guilds or fraternities, one of Corpus Christi, and the other of the Blessed virgin, which, after a long emulation; being united into one body, by a joint interest built this college, which took its name from the adjoining church of St. Benedict. Their greatest modern benefactor was Dr. Matthew Parker, once Master of the College, and afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, who, by his prudent management, recovered several rights of the college; and, besides two fellowships and five scholarships, gave a great number of excellent manuscripts to their Library, which were mostly collected out of the remains of the old abbey-libraries, colleges and cathedrals, and chiefly relate to the History of England.

The chapel here is neat and well fitted up: it has a new elegant altar-piece of carved wainscot, supported by two large pillars; in the middle is a panel of crimson velvet, in a gilt frame, the gift of Sir Jacob Astley, of Milton in Norfolk.

The

The manuscript library here is noted all over Europe, and is kept with great care.

#### 5. TRINITY-HALL.

Was founded about the year 1353, by William Bateman, Bishop of Norwich. It was built upon a place which once belonged to the monks of Ely, and was an house for students before the time of Bishop Bateman, who, by exchange for the advowsons of certain rectories, got it into his own possession. He was a great master of civil and canon law; whereupon the master, two fellows, and three scholars (the number appointed by him at the first foundation) were obliged to follow those two studies. It has been since much augmented by benefactors, and the number of its members is proportionably increased.

The chapel is very pretty, but small; the altarpiece finely painted; the presentation of our Saviour; it was brought from abroad by Dean Chetwood, and presented to this college.

The hall is beautiful, with a fine wrought ceiling and music gallery.

#### 6. GONEVIL and CAIUS COLLEGE.

In the year 1348, Edward Gonevil founded an hall, called after his name, upon the place where now are the orchard and tennis-court of Bennet-college. But within five years after it was removed to the place where it now stands, by Bishop Bateman, founder of Trinity-hall. In the year 1557, John Caius, Doctor of Physic, improved this hall into a new college, since chiefly called by his name; and it has of late years received considerable embellishments, &c.

M

Before



Before his death he gave orders for making his sepulchre, under the altar of the Virgin Mary, on the north side of the chapel : his monument, when the chapel was rebuilt some time since, and made longer, was raised from the floor, and placed in the wall, as it now stands : his body, it was said was found whole and perfect, and the beard very long, though it had been buried near an hundred and fifty years.

The tomb resembles a canopy, supported by three pillars of veined marble, with this excellent though short, epitaph,

FULCAIUS  
VIVIT POST FUNERA VIRTUS.  
ÆTATIS SUÆ LXIII. Obiit XXIX Julii.  
ANNO DNI 1573.

I was Caius.

Virtue our death survives!

The chapel is not large, but neat and beautiful, and was rebuilt above fifty years since ; it is dedicated to the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, the history of which is represented in a beautiful picture over the communion-table. The cieling is painted with blue, and beautified with a great number of cherubs heads in rays of light. The altar is neatly wainscotted and ornamented with four pillars on each side, in the midst of which is the aforesaid picture in a gilt frame ; over which are painted seven candlesticks with tapers, and on each side are curious carvings in wood, representing flowers, fruits, &c. The altar is also raised in, and paved with black and white marble. The table is covered with a velvet cloth, on which stands two silver gilt candlesticks, with tapers of wax, a large silver dish, two beautiful velvet cushions, on each a Common-prayer-book, the cloth and cushion on the

the Litany-desk, as also those of the master's and president's seats, are of the same, and all fringed with gold. Over the anti-chapel is a neat gallery, where the master's servants may hear divine service.

#### 7. KING'S COLLEGE

Was founded in the year 1451, by King Henry VI. It was at first but small, being built by that prince for a rector and twelve scholars only. Near it was a little hostel for grammarians, built by William Bingham, which was granted by the founder to King Henry, for the enlargement of his college. Whereupon he united these two, and, having enlarged them, by adding the church of St. John Zachary, founded a college for a provost, seventy fellows and scholars, three chaplains, &c. The chapel belonging to this college is deservedly reckoned one of the finest buildings of its kind in the world. It is three hundred and four feet long; its breadth, including the cells or burial places on each side, is seventy-three broad; its height to the battlements is ninety-one feet; it has not one pillar in it, and the roof is arched with stone. It has twelve large windows on each side, finely painted; which escaped the fury of the civil-wars, though the parliamentarians made a garrison of it: and the carving and other workmanship of the stalls surpasses every thing of the kind. It constitutes one side of a large square; for the royal founder designed that the college should be a quadrangle, all of equal beauty: but the civil wars, in which he was involved, with the house of York, prevented his accomplishing it; and the prosecution of his good design was reserved to our own time. What has been added within these few years past, is not only an ornament to the college, but to the whole University,

University. The new building, which is of stone, runs from the west end of the chapel, a little detached from it, to the south-ward, makes another side of the square, and contains spacious chambers and apartments, being two hundred and thirty-six feet in length, and forty-six in breadth.

February 1734, the workmen, digging for the foundation of the new buildings of this college, found a great number of broad pieces of gold, of the coin of King Henry V. exceeding fair. As soon as it was known, the governors of the college got out of the workmens hands a considerable number, which they made presents of to their particular benefactors, and divided among themselves and the fellows of the college; but it is supposed, that the workmen secreted many; for this coin was very scarce before, but after this was much easier to be met with.

#### 8. QUEEN'S COLLEGE

Was founded by Queen Margaret of Anjou, wife of King Henry VI. in the year 1448, but the troublesome times that followed, would not give her leave to complete the fabric. The first master of it, Andrew Ducket, procured great sums of money from well-disposed persons, towards finishing of this work; and so far prevailed with Queen Elizabeth, wife to King Edward IV. that she perfected what her professed enemy had begun. The Reverend Mr. Ferdinando Smythes, Senior Fellow of Queen's-college, who died in November 1725, gave fifteen hundred pounds to the same; to be appropriated to the use of three Bachelors of Art, till the time of their taking their Master's degree.

#### 9. CATHERINE

## 9. CATHERINE-HALL

Was founded in the year 1459, by Robert Woodward, third provost of King's-college; and the hall was built over-against the Carmelites-house, for one master and three fellows. The numbers have been since greatly increased, as well as the revenues, by a late considerable benefaction, and a new building is added, at the east end of the master's lodge, and the whole is parted from the street by an handsome brick wall, with stone columns and iron gates. Dr. Thomas Sherlock, late Bishop of London, gave, in his life-time, six hundred and fifty pounds, for fitting up an handsome room, as well for the reception of the college library, as of his own books, which were placed therein after his decease. He likewise gave the iron pallisades at the back of the college.

The chapel is a pretty room, decently wainscotted, and handsomely paved with black and white marble; the library is large and well classed; the lodge a good one; and the flower-garden a pretty spot.

## 10. JESUS COLLEGE

Was founded in the year 1497, by John Alcock, Bishop of Ely, out of an old nunnery, dedicated to St. Radegund, given him by King Henry VII. and Pope Julius II. on account of the scandalous incontinence of the nuns, in order to be by him converted to this use. And this prelate established in it a master, six fellows and six scholars; but their numbers have been much increased by after benefactions.

## 11. CHRIST'S



## 94 CAMBRIDGESHIRE,

### 11. CHRIST'S COLLEGE

Was founded by the Lady Margaret, Countess of Richmond, mother of King Henry VII. in the year 1506, upon the place where God's-house formerly stood. She settled there a master and twelve fellows, &c. which number in King Edward the Sixth's time being complained of as favouring of superstition, by alluding to our Saviour and his twelve disciples, that Prince added a thirteenth fellowship, with some new scholarships. This college has been, within these few years past, adorned with a very fine new building.

### 12. ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

Was founded about the year 1506, by the same lady, upon the place where, in the year 1134, Nigel or Neal, second Bishop of Ely, founded an hospital for canons regular; which, by Hugh de Balsam, was converted into a priory dedicated to St. John, and by the executors of the said Countess of Richmond, into a college, under the name of the same saint. For she died before it was finished; which retarded the work for some time; but it was afterwards carried on by her executors; and in the beginning of the reign of King James I. was greatly enlarged with fair new buildings. The college, pleasantly situated by the river, is no less remarkable for its number of students, and its beautiful groves and gardens, than for its strict and regular discipline. It has a noble library, which has been of late years greatly augmented, by the accession of the library of Dr. Gunning, Bishop of Ely, who bequeathed the same to it.

### 13. MAGDALEN

## 13. MAGDALEN COLLEGE

Was founded in the year 1542, by Thomas Audley, Lord Chancellor of England, and was afterwards enlarged and endowed by Sir Christopher Wrey, Lord Chief Justice of England. This college stands by itself on the north-west side of the river, and hath been of late years improved and adorned by a handsome piece of building. A fellowship of considerable value has been lately founded at this college, which is appropriated to gentlemen of the county of Norfolk, and called, The travelling Norfolk Fellowship.

To the library of this college was left a valuable collection of pamphlets, by — Pepys, Esq. as also great numbers of papers relating to the Navy and Admiralty. The benefactor bequeathed the presses as well as the books and papers, and they are kept in the manner he left them.

## 14. TRINITY COLLEGE

Was founded in the year 1546, by King Henry VIII. out of three others: St. Michael's college, built by Hervie of Stanton, in the time of Edward II. King's-hall, founded by Edward III. and Fenwick's Hostel. Its worthy master, T. Nevil, Dean of Canterbury, repaired or rather new-built this college, with that splendour and magnificence, that for spaciousness, and the beauty and uniformity of its buildings, it is hardly to be outdone. All which has been still further improved by a most noble and stately library, begun by the late famous Dr. Isaac Barrow: a building for the bigness and design of it (says a right reverend prelate) perhaps not to be matched in these kingdoms. This college is likewise rendered famous on account of several great men it has educated, as the Lord Bacon, Sir  
Isaac

Isaac Newton, Dr. Barrow, Mr. Ray, and Dr. Bentley, its late learned master. July 4, 1755, was finished and erected in Trinity-chapel, Cambridge, by Dr. Smith, that long studied piece of sculpture of Sir Isaac Newton, which is allowed by the best professors of art, to be a complete master-piece of the celebrated Mr. Roubillac.

The chapel is a grand building, and very commodious, and wherein on Sundays, holidays, and their eves, divine service is performed as in cathedrals; and the altar-piece, which is very magnificent, was so very curiously plaistered over, for fear of being destroyed by the reformers (as they called themselves) in Cromwell's time, that they discerned it not, neither was it found out by the college till many years after, (when it was discovered by some workmen, employed to do some repairs there) it being supposed to be privately done by the fellows, who were afterwards ejected, and never returned again to college.

The library is the grandest of its kind in the three kingdoms, most elegantly floored with black and white marble, as is the spacious stair-case leading thereto: it is well furnished with valuable books.

The hall is very spacious; the lodge, a superb building; the grand court three hundred and forty-four feet long, and three hundred and twenty-five broad; near the middle is a beautiful fountain of excellent water; the observatory is a noble and lofty room, properly furnished.

#### 15. EMANUEL COLLEGE

Was founded in the year 1584, by Sir William Mildmay, Chancellor of the Exchequer to Queen Elizabeth, in a place where was formerly a convent of Dominicans, founded in the year 1280, by the Lady

Lady Alice, Countess of Oxford. After the suppression of monasteries, it came into the possession of Mr. Sherwood, of whom Sir Walter seems to have bought it. It has a very neat chapel, built not many years ago, by the bounty of Dr. William Sancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, and others. And the library belonging to it, has received of late years a fine addition, by the valuable collection of books of the same Archbishop, given to it on the decease of that prelate.

#### 16. SIDNEY-SUSSEX COLLEGE

Was founded by virtue of the will of the Lady Frances Sidney, Countess of Suffex, who died in the year 1589, and by her will left five thousand pounds for the founding of a college, to be called Sidney-Suffex. It was erected on the place where formerly the monastery of Grey Friars, built by King Edward I. had flourished. But though this college owes its rise to the bequest of this lady, and the care of her executors, it is exceedingly improved by the benefactions of Sir Francis Clerk, who, besides erecting a set of new buildings, augmented the scholarships, and founded four fellowships, with eight scholarships more; and moreover Sir John Brereton left to it above two thousand pounds.

The chapel was formerly the dormitory of the Grey Friars; the library is a pretty apartment, the hall spacious; the lodge neat; the fellows garden, &c. a most delightful place, having a noble bowling-green, a fine alcove, and spacious gravel walks.

These are the sixteen colleges or halls in this University.

The schools of this University were at first in private houses, hired from ten years to ten years for that purpose, by the University; in which time they



might not be put to any other use. Afterwards public schools were built at the charge of the University, in or near the place where they now stand; but the present fabric, as it is now built of brick and rough stone, was erected partly at the expence of the University, and partly by the contributions of several benefactors.

The whole number of fellows in the University is four hundred and six, and of scholars six hundred and sixty-six; besides which there are two hundred and thirty-six inferior officers and servants of various kinds, who are maintained upon the foundation. These, however, are not all the students of the University; there are two sorts of students, called pensioners, the greater and the less; the greater pensioners are in general, the young nobility, and are called fellow-commoners, because, though they are scholars, they dine with the fellows; the less are dieted with the scholars, but both live at their own expence. There are also a considerable number of poor scholars, called sizars, or servitors, &c.

There are certain days in the University called *Scarlet-days*, on which all doctors wear their scarlet robes, viz. Easter-day, twenty-ninth of May, Ascension-day, Whitsunday, Trinity-Sunday, Commencement-Sunday, the King's Accession, Proclamation of Midsummer and Sturbridge fair, Michaelmas-day, all Saints, fifth of November, Christmas-day, Thanksgiving for Peace, &c.

Before we conclude our account of this part of the county, we shall just mention the religious houses that formerly flourished in Cambridge.

1. The Dominicans, or Preaching Friars, now Emanuel College.

2. Franciscans, called Minors, or Grey Friars, founded by King Edward I. now Sidney-Sussex College.

3. Augustine

3. Augustine Friars; all that spot of ground called Pease-hill, north of St. Thomas's-lay, west of Slaughter-house-lane, and east of Free-school-lane; and lying between Free-school-lane and Slaughter-house-lane. And when William Finch, Esq. built his house near Pease-hill, there were many human bones found.

4. Carmelites, built by King Edward I. part of now the gardens of Queen's-college, the gardens belonging to the provost of King's, part of Catherine-hall and the Bull-inn.

5. White Canons, opposite Pembroke, extending from the east end of Little St. Mary's church, to the east of Mill-lane.

6. Pythagoras's-house, so called, as it is said, from its having been the residence of that ancient philosopher, he having read lectures there to the scholars of this University; it was situated on the north-west side of Merton-college, Oxon, but formerly belonging to King's-college, Cambridge; from which it was taken, among many other of their estates, by King Edward IV. and given to the said college.

*Gogmogog* or rather *Hogmagog-hills*, command a fine view over the city of Cambridge, over a rich and pleasant vale, covered with corn-fields, gentlemen's seats, &c. At the top of the hills are the remains of a fort and camp, which some think to be a British work cast up against Ashbury, which was an encampment of the Romans. From the brow of these hills a Roman highway ran to the north.

In the ground between these hills and Cambridge, there grows naturally abundance of larkspurs, which being intermixed with the wheat, makes a fine appearance; the blue and white flowers, which rise to the height of the corn, as the ears become ripe, make a fine variety with the larkspurs.

In the neighbourhood of Cambridge is a small village, called *Barnwell*, where in the time of the Normans was an abbey. According to *Camden* it takes its name from the number of wells of children, or *Bearns*, because the youth used to meet here on St. John's eve; by which concourse of boys and girls for sport, it came at last to be what is now called Midsummer Fair.

We cannot here omit a most deplorable accident that happened here, September 8, 1727. A great number of people being assembled together in a thatched barn, to see a puppet-shew, a fellow attempted to thrust himself in without paying; but meeting with a refusal, and the door being locked, or, as some say, nailed, to prevent the entrance of intruders, the villain threatened to set the barn on fire over their heads, in revenge. Unfortunately, adjoining to the barn were some hay and straw, and a boy setting down a wooden lanthorn with a short candle in it at a little distance, whilst he was looking through a hole at the sight, the villainous fellow aforesaid beat the lanthorn about, till the fire took the straw, which he left burning, and ran away. There was a floor above them, and the flame getting into the false roof, spread like wildfire. The people, in the utmost consternation, all making to the door, which opened inwards, fell upon one another, and became as it were, so many barricadoes to hinder its being opened; and just at this fatal crisis, the fire having seized some, and dreadful shrieks and cries resounding on every side, the floor fell in, and smothered almost all; for not above five or six escaped; and about an hundred and twenty men, women and children, miserably perished. The next day it was one of the most shocking sights that ever was beheld, to see the relations of the unhappy people flocking thither to find and own the bodies, some of their brothers, some of their children, some of their

their wives and husbands, which they found difficult enough to discover; for some of them had their heads burnt off, some their legs, some their hands and arms, and others were, in a manner, consumed to ashes. And at last, most of the mangled bodies were carried in carts, and put promiscuously into a large hole dug in the church-yard for that purpose. Among the unfortunate sufferers were several young gentlewomen of considerable fortunes.

About four years after this, another terrible fire happened, which almost consumed the whole town of Barnwell.

Within these four years, a fine road of about four miles in length, was completed, from the City of Cambridge to Gogmagog-hills: this generous work was begun by Dr. Hervey, master of Trinity-college, and finished in pursuance of a will of William Wortes, Esq. of Cambridge. This benefaction is exceedingly useful, as the way before was extremely bad.

A little to the south of Cambridge is *Trumpington*, where is a place called *Dam-hill*, noted for the many urns, pateras, and other Roman antiquities found there, together with great numbers of human bones.

At *Arbury*, or *Harborough*, is a large camp of a squarish figure, where also have been found Roman coins, one particularly of silver, with the head of Rome on one side, and on the reverse, Castor and Pollux on horseback.

On the right of the road from Cambridge to Ely,

is *Rich*, a small market town, from whence a fortification, or ditch, with a rampart, extends over Newmarket-heath. It is known by the better sort of people, by the name of *Reck-dyke*, but is called *Devil's-dyke* by the vulgar, who generally attributed things of an extraordinary nature to the prince of darkness.



darkness. This is supposed to have been the boundary of the kingdom of the East Angles.

Somewhat more north is Sohun, formerly the See of a Bishop of the East Angles, in which are some small ruins remaining of a church that was burnt here by the Danes. It stands near a fen, which made it formerly very dangerous to travellers who passed that way to Ely, but now there is a safe causeway made through it.

*Ely*, seventeen miles from Cambridge, and sixty-eight from London. It is an ancient city, and the chief of the fenny country, called the Isle of Ely. It being surrounded by the Ouse and other streams, renders it very unhealthy, being subject to frequent fogs, and almost continually overspread with mists and damps.

The town is large, but not very populous nor beautiful; and is plentifully supplied with provisions. *Leland* thinks its name is derived either from the vast number of eels here, or from the Saxon word *Helyz*, i. e. willows, which are the only trees that thrive in this part of the country. Here are a great number of springs, especially in the High-street, which are bricked up knee high, and sometimes overflow. In the neighbourhood are a number of garden-grounds, which furnish Cambridge and the neighbouring towns with most kinds of garden stuff.

An ingenious correspondent, to whom we before have been indebted for his favours, has obliged us with a curious accurate history and description of Ely Minster; which we shall insert in his own words, as follows :

#### DESCRIPTION of ELY MINSTER.

" This magnificent and stately structure, like most others of the kind, has been built at different times,

times, and been frequently subject to the ravages of time, and the fury of foreign invaders.

“ It was formerly a nunnery, and originall erected by Etheldreda, wife to Egbert, King of Northumberland, in the year of our Lord 613. When the Danes plundered that part of the country in 870, they destroyed it; and it lay in ruins for the space of a whole century.

“ But in the year 970, it was rebuilt by King Edgar, with additional splendor. Soon after Ethelwood, Bishop of Winchester, placed therein a convent of monks, and dedicated it to St. Etheldred. At that time it was in the See of Lincoln, where it remained till the year 1109, when it was changed into a Bishoprick. In 1371, the great tower, which stood in the centre of the cross, fell down, and quite demolished the choir; but in its room there has since been erected an elegant octagon lanthorn, an hundred and eighty feet high, terminating in eight beautiful Gothic pinnacles, finely ornamented. At the west end of the church were three lofty porches, one on the north, one on the south, and one on the west, which projected forty-two feet from the body of the church. Those on the north and south had each two octagon towers at the entrance, an hundred feet high; but that on the north side fell down about forty-years since, and has not yet been rebuilt.

“ In the centre of these porches stands the great western tower, which is a striking monument of ancient art and grandeur.

“ At the height of about two hundred feet this tower diminishes a little in its dimensions, and breaks off from a square to an octagon. But the four principal corner pillars are continued upright to the top, where they are connected with the battlements, by vast stones cramped and bound together with irons; and rise fifteen feet at each corner above the walls.

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By this means open spaces are left between the corner towers and the body of the steeple, which give it an exceeding light and elegant appearance. The whole height of this tower is two hundred and sixty-six feet, and on the top of it was a fine spire ninety feet high, which about twelve years since was taken down from an apprehension that its weight would endanger the building.

“The whole length of the church, from the entrance of the western porch, to the great east window, is five hundred and eighteen feet,—viz. the porch forty-two, the passage under the great tower forty-two, thence to the entrance of the choir two hundred, the length of the choir one hundred, thence to the east window an hundred and thirty-four.

“The length of the cross aisles from north to south is an hundred and eighty-two feet: the breadth of the body and side aisles seventy-six, equal to which is the height of the vaulting in the choir. The lower part of the octagon dome, from the opposite pillars, sixty-five feet, the height of the pillars that support it sixty-two, from the floor to the centre of the lanthorn, withinside, an hundred and forty-two feet; breadth of the choir to the backs of the stalls thirty-four feet.

“At the north-east corner of the minster, is a chapel dedicated to St. Mary, one hundred feet long and sixty high, where service is performed on Sundays. At the right and left hand of the chancel in the minster, are two small but very elegant chapels; superbly decorated with some of the finest fret-work in the world.

“The floor under the grand octagon is curiously laid with black and white marble. The pillars that support the roof and divide the body of the church from the side aisles, are thirty feet round, but so constructed

constructed, that they look like a bundle of rods tied together, and have a very light appearance. In the side aisles are many ancient marble monuments of the Bishops formerly belonging to this see, of General Stewart, and divers other eminent personages; several of which are very finely executed. On the eight pillars that support the lanthorn, are finely carved, the history of,—1. The marriage of King Elfred with St. Etheldreda. 2. The consecration of St. Etheldreda to God. 3. St. Etheldreda concealed by divine mercy from the fury of her persecutors. 4. St. Etheldreda's staff budding. 5. St. Etheldreda created an abbess. 6. The death and burial of St. Etheldreda. 7. The translation of St. Etheldreda. 8. Buthanus set at liberty through the kindness and intercession of St. Etheldreda.

“ This stately structure has, for more than a century been very shamefully neglected, considering what vast revenues the bishops and dignitaries enjoyed; but in the year 1760 it began to be cleaned and repaired, since which time many thousand pounds have been expended in beautifying it. As this building stands on a rising ground in the middle of a flat country, it is seen at a greater distance round than any in England. In going from Chesterford in Essex to Lynn in Norfolk, which is more than sixty miles, we see it almost the whole way. Travellers who visit Ely are very much deceived by its appearing to be within four or five miles of them, when they are ten or twelve distant from it. This deception proceeds from the vast bulk of the building, and the flatness of the adjacent country. When it is approached, from the east particularly, it has a most grand and stately appearance, the whole city lying like an amphitheatre beneath it.

The prospect from the top of the great western tower, is, in a clear day, the most extensive I have  
O ever



ever seen. On the north side is Peterborough minster; on the east, the spire of Swaffham, in Norfolk, near seventy miles distant. The eye commands the whole isle of Ely, the greatest part of Cambridge and Huntingdonshires, part of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Hartfordshire, Lincolnshire and Bedfordshire; and I was told by the Sexton that with a telescope Boston-steeple may be seen, near seventy miles distant."

There is a place in this isle of Ely, known by the name of *Haddenham Level*, that contains six thousand five hundred acres, which through the neglect of preserving and cleaning the out-falls into the sea, were all overflowed some years ago; upon which an act passed for the more effectual draining and preserving of the said level: it is obvious what an advantage must accrue to the public by this method, as the grounds are naturally very rich and fertile.

At *Sutton*, not many miles from Ely, some pieces of antiquity were turned up by the plough, in 1694, as several small coins, three silver plates, three twisted rings, and one plain, of a good value, with an inscription in Saxon characters.

North-west of Ely is *Thorney Abbey*, formerly called *Ankeridge*, from the Anchorites monastery there, which the Danes destroyed; but it was rebuilt by Athelwold, Bishop of Winchester, and filled with monks, whose abbot was mitred, though the poorest that was so in England. Though *Camden* says, this abbey had its name from being situated among bushes and thorns; yet William of Malmesbury describes it in his time, "as the very picture of paradise, pleasant like heaven itself, with tall trees tapering to the skies, a plain smooth as water, with verdent greens, not an inch besides uncultivated either here with apples, or there with vines, and so beautified too with buildings, as if both nature  
and

and art strove to supply what either had forgot. In fine, (said he) it is a lodge for chastity, a harbour for honesty, and a school for divine philosophy."

Its present situation is pleasant, the land about it very fertile in grass and trees, and it produces very good crops of corn, since the fens have been drained. His late Grace the Duke of Bedford, made great improvements here, and embellished it by plantations of trees, &c. The estate belonging to that family in this part of England is very extensive; about nineteen thousand acres of land in this level. Higher up in the most northern part of the county, is

*Wisbich*, eighty-nine miles and a half from London, situated amidst the fens and rivers of this isle. It was of note in the time of William the Conqueror, that King having built a castle here to prevent the incursions of the out-laws from Ely. In the year 1236, all the lands and people hereabouts were drowned by a tempestuous inundation from the sea; but Cardinal Moreton, Bishop of Ely, rebuilt the castle with brick, which in the reign of Queen Elizabeth was made a prison for the Roman Catholic Priests and Jesuits. It is now esteemed the best trading town in all the isle of Ely; its conveniency of good water carriage to London being a great advantage to it; the inhabitants continually sending great quantities of oil and butter to the metropolis, in return for which they bring back all sorts of commodities, with which they furnish the whole island.

*Belfars-bill*, hereabouts is a large, but not a very high rampart, called so from one *Belfar*, said to have been a famous man among the rebels, who fled hither from justice in the time of William the Conqueror, the country being so boggy as to elude pursuit

pursuit; and therefore it was the asylum of the out-laws in the barons wars.

Entering this county by another road, on the eastern part of it, at Bournbridge, on the right of which is Horse-heath, the seat of Lord Montfort, we proceed to

*Newmarket*, sixty miles and an half from London; is a handsome well built town, with one long street, the north side of which is in Suffolk, the south in Cambridgeshire. It is a pleasant and healthy place, and a great thoroughfare on the road to Lynn; which is no small advantage to the town, though the inhabitants reap their chief harvest at the horse-races here, twice a year; of which more hereafter.

The name of the town seems to import it to be of modern date; yet we find it gave name to Thomas of Newmarket, so early as in the reign of King Edward III. In the year 1683, it suffered greatly by fire, but was soon rebuilt by the help of a brief. The town has two churches belonging to it, and a free-school endowed by King Charles II.

On the heath, which is spacious, and esteemed the finest course in England, the races are annually held in April and October; the concourse of people here of all ranks and denominations, is exceedingly great, and it is no uncommon thing to see the Groom and his Grace shake hands on the turf, and the principal nobility and gentry of the kingdom, intermixing and joining in the *honourable* crouds of jockies, gamblers and sharpers. This diversion becoming a public nuisance, the legislature took cognizance of it, and in the thirteenth of King George II. a law passed, which enjoins as follows: to wit.

That none but the owners of horses shall enter them, and but one horse at a time:

That no plate under fifty pounds value shall be run for, on penalty of two hundred pounds, and  
one

one hundred pounds on such as shall advertise, print, or publish any advertisement of a plate to be run for of less value than fifty pounds.

Five years old horses to carry ten stone; six, eleven; seven, twelve; on the forfeiture of the horse, and two hundred pounds. The race to be begun and ended in one day.

Matches to be at Newmarket, and Black-Hamilton, Yorkshire, only; on penalty of two hundred pounds.

But gifts left for annual races not to be altered.

Somersetshire penalties to go to Bath hospital.

Entrance-money to be paid to the second-best horse.

Here are also coffee-houses, at which, every night, after the races, every species of gambling is followed; besides, there are cock-matches, assemblies, and indeed every kind of dissipation that the most dissolute can desire: here the peer becomes a dupe to the sharper, and he who is elected to hold the reins of government, has not reason sufficient to keep a curb over a vicious inclination.

*Sturbridge*, a village, by a little brook, called *Sture*, on the east side of the county, is noted for the most famous fair in the whole kingdom, and thought to equal that kept at Leipfick in Saxony, or the mart at Franckfort on the Main.

It is kept in a large corn-field, near Chesterton, extending from the side of the river Cam, towards the road, for about half a mile square.

If the field be not cleared of the corn before a certain day in August, the fair-keepers may trample it under foot, to build their booths, or tents. On the other hand, to balance that severity, if the fair-keepers have not cleared the field by another certain day in September, the ploughmen may re-enter with plough and cart, and overthrow all into the dirt; and as for the filth and dung, straw, &c.  
left



left behind by the fair-keepers, which is very considerable, these become the farmers fees, and make them full amends for trampling, riding, carting upon, and hardening the ground.

It is impossible to describe all the parts and circumstances of this fair exactly; the shops are placed in rows, like streets, whereof one is called Cheap-side; and here, as in several other streets, are all sorts of traders, who sell by retale, and come chiefly from London. Here may be seen goldsmiths, toymen, brasiers, turners, milleners, haberdashers, hatters, mercers, drapers, pewterers, china-ware-houses, and, in a word, all trades that can be found in London; with coffee-houses, taverns, and eating-houses, in great numbers; and all kept in tents and booths.

This great street reaches from the road, which goes from Cambridge to Newmarket, turning short out of it to the left towards the river, and holds in a line near half a mile quite down to the river side. In another street, parallel with the road are the like rows of booths, but somewhat larger, and more intermingled with wholesale dealers; and one side, passing out of this last street to the right hand, is a great square, formed of the largest booth, called the *Duddery*; but whence so called I could not learn. The area of this square is from eighty to an hundred yards, where the dealers have room, before every booth, to take down and open their packs, and to bring in waggons to load and unload.

This place being peculiar to the wholesale dealers in the woollen manufacture, the booths or tents are of a vast extent, have different apartments, and the quantities of goods they bring are so great, that the insides of them look like so many Blackwell-halls, and are vast warehouses piled up with goods to the top. In this *Duddery*, they inform us, have been sold an hundred thousand thousand pounds worth  
of

of woollen manufactures in less than a week's time; besides the prodigious trade carried on here by wholesale-men from London, and all parts of England, who transact their business wholly in their pocket-books; and, meeting their chapmen from all parts, make up their accounts, receive money chiefly in bills, and take orders. These, they say, exceed by far the sale of goods actually brought to the fair, and delivered in kind; it being frequent for the London wholesalers to carry back orders from the dealers, to ten thousand pounds worth of goods a man, and some much more. This especially respects those people who deal in heavy goods, as wholesale grocers, salters, brasiers, iron-merchants, wine-merchants, and the like; but does not exclude the dealers in woollen manufactures, and especially in mercery goods of all sorts, who generally manage their business in this manner.

Here are clothiers from Halifax, Leeds, Wakefield, and Huthersfield, in Yorkshire, and from Rochdale, Bury, &c. in Lancashire, with vast quantities of Yorkshire cloths, kerseys, pennystones, cottons, &c. with all sorts of Manchester ware, fustians, and things made of cotton wool; of which the quantity is so great, that it is said, there are near a thousand horse-packs of such goods from that side of the country, and these take up a side and a half of the Duddery at least; also a part of a street of booths is taken up with upholstery ware; such as tickens, sackens, Kidderminster stuffs, blankets, rugs, quilts, &c.

Western goods have their share here also, and several booths are filled with serges, duroys, druggets, shalloons, cantaloons, Devonshire kerseys, &c. from Exeter, Taunton, Bristol, and other parts west, and some from London also.

But all this is still outdone, at least in appearance, by two articles, which are the peculiars of this

this fair, and are not exhibited till the other part of the fair, for the woollen manufacture begins to close up; these are the Wool and the Hops. There is scarce any price fixed for hops in England, till they know how they sell at Sturbridge fair. The quantity that appears in the fair is indeed prodigious, and they take up a large part of the field, on which the fair is kept, to themselves: they are brought directly from Chelmsford in Essex, from Canterbury and Maidstone in Kent, and from Farnham in Surry; besides what are brought from London, of the growth of those and other places.

The article of wool is of several sorts; but principally fleece wool, out of Lincolnshire, where the longest staple is found, the sheep of those parts being of the largest breed.

The buyers are chiefly the manufacturers of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex; and it is a prodigious quantity they buy.

They have a peculiar term here, of a *Pocket* of wool, the sight of which greatly surprizes strangers; it seems to have been first called so in mockery, this pocket being so big, that it loads a whole waggon, and reaches beyond the most extreme parts of it, hanging over both before and behind; and ordinarily weigh a ton, or two thousand five hundred pounds weight of wool, all in one bag.

The quantity of wool only, which has been sold at this place at one fair, has been said to amount to fifty or sixty thousand pounds in value, some say a great deal more.

By these articles, a stranger may make some guess at the immense trade which is carried on at this place; what prodigious quantities of goods are bought and sold, and what a vast concourse of people are seen here from all parts of England.

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We might proceed to speak of several other sorts of English manufactures which are brought hither to be sold ; as all sorts of wrought iron, and brass-ware from Birmingham ; edged tools, knives, &c. from Sheffield ; glass-wares and stockings from Nottingham and Leicester ; and unaccountable quantities of other things, of smaller value, every morning.

To attend this fair, and the prodigious crouds of people which resort to it, there are hackney-coaches which come from London, and ply all day long, to carry the people to and from Cambridge ; for there the major part of them lodge.

It is not to be wondered at, if the town of Cambridge cannot receive or entertain the numbers of people that come to this fair ; for not Cambridge only, but all the towns round are full ; nay, the very barns and stables are turned into inns, to lodge the meaner sort of people : as for the fair people, they all eat, drink, and sleep in their booths, which are so intermingled with taverns, coffee-houses, drinking-house, eating-houses, cook-shops, &c. and so many butchers and higglers from all the neighbouring counties come in every morning with beef, mutton, fowls, butter, bread, cheese, eggs, and such things, and go with them from tent to tent, and from door to door, that there is no want of provisions of any kind, either dressed or undressed.

In a word, the fair is like a well-governed city, and there is the least disorder and confusion that can be seen any where, with so great a concourse of people.

Towards the middle of the fair, and when the great hurry of wholesale business begins to be over, the gentry come in, from all parts of the country round ; and though they come for their diversion, yet it is not a little money they lay out, which generally falls to the share of the retailers ; such as the toy-shops, goldsmiths, brasiers, iron-mongers,  
P. turners,



turners, milleners, mercers, &c. and some loose corns they reserve for the puppet-shews, drolls, rope-dancers and such-like, of which there is no want. The middle day of the fair is the horse-fair, which is concluded both with horse and foot-races. In less than a week after the end of the fair, scarce any sign of it remains, except by the heaps of dung, straw, and other rubbish, which are left behind, trod into the earth, and is as good as summer's fallow for the land; and pays the husbandman well for the use of it.

Here is a court of justice always open, and held every day in a shed built on purpose in the fair: this is for keeping the peace, and deciding controversies in matters arising from the business of the fair. The magistrates of the University of Cambridge are judges in this court, as being in their jurisdiction, by special privilege. Here they determine matters in a summary way, as is practised in those we call Pye-powder courts in other places, or as a Court of Conscience; and they have a final authority without appeal.

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## NORFOLK CIRCUIT.

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

**I**T being very probable that the woody parts of this county abounded heretofore with deer, the name is supposed to be derived from the Saxon word *Buc*, which is interpreted *Cervus*, a buck, or hart. It is situated almost in the centre of the kingdom; being divided on the south from Berkshire by the Thames, and is bounded on the west with Oxfordshire; on the north with Northamptonshire; and on the east with Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, and Middlesex. In length it is thirty-nine miles; in breadth eighteen, and in circumference not more than an hundred and thirty-eight. The area, according to Mr. *Templeman*, is five hundred and forty-eight square miles; and contains eleven market towns, and six boroughs, which send each two members to parliament, viz. Buckingham, Chipping, Wycomb, Ailesbury, Agmondesham, Wendover, and Great Marlow.

The shire is diversified with pleasant woods and fine streams, which render it a desirable county; besides the quality of its air, which is generally good, especially on the Chiltern-hills, so that there is not a better in the whole island. And even in the vale, where it is not altogether so good, it is much better

better than in other low dirty counties. Its chief rivers are the Thames, the Ouse, and the Coln. The soil being generally marl or chalk, is very fruitful, especially in corn; and though it is stony on the Chilterns, yet, amidst those stones, there come up good crops of choice wheat and barley. It abounds likewise with physical plants, and perhaps more so than any other county. As the land in the vale is proper for grazing, so it abounds with cattle. There are some graziers here, who perhaps have four or five hundred pounds a year in land of their own, and yet rent three times as much, which they keep all in their own management.

Although the soil here is so good to feed sheep, yet it is too rich to breed them. The sheep in the vale of Ailesbury are said to be the biggest in England, and their mutton is very good; yet whoever has eaten of that of Banstead, Bagshot and Tunbridge, must own there is better. Their beef here is so good, that Buckinghamshire bread and beef was formerly a proverb; meaning that the former was the finest and the latter the fattest in England. But the bread of London and the beef of Somersetshire, render that proverb obsolete: they had also another saying, mentioned by *Fuller*; "Here, if you beat a bush, it is odds you'll start a thief." For though the Chiltern in the days of yore was almost impassable, by reason of thick woods, which were a harbour for robbers, yet Leofstan, Abbot of St. Alban's, and others since his time have, cut them down, so that there are as many maiden assizes in this county as in any that is so populous.

The chief manufactures carried on in this county are paper and bone-lace; the former made at Wycomb mills, and the latter about Newport Pagnel, where the lace is very little inferior to that of Flanders. It is recorded to the honour of this county, which

is in the diocese of Lincoln; that though it is one of the least in England, it had more martyrs and confessors for the protestant religion in the reigns of King Henry VIII. and Queen Mary, than all England besides, and has given titles of Earl and Duke to several noble families; the last to those of Villiers and Sheffield, which are now extinct.

Taking the Uxbridge road, which leads through this county to Oxford and Gloucester, we enter Buckinghamshire, in the south-east angle at Gerard's Cross, on the left of which is Bulstrode-house, the seat of his grace the Duke of Portland; the house is delightfully situated, in a noble park, which is composed of perpetual swells and slopes, to a great extent, with scattered plantations at proper distances, all disposed in a judicious manner, and cannot fail of pleasing the eye of the observant traveller. About three miles from it is

*Beaconsfield*, twenty-four miles from London. The town, which is small, but full of good inns, is situated on the top of a dry hill, and is noted for being the birth-place of that eminent poet, Edmund Waller, Esq. Its chief note at present, is for the seat of Edmund Burke, Esq. The house is a large, regular, and convenient building, extremely well situated, in the midst of an agreeable park, which commands various views of the adjacent country, rendered fine by the uncommon number of woods, which spread over the sides of the hills. The north front of the house looks over a large extent of country, wholly surrounded with different woods, which have so magnificent an appearance, that one would think every tree planted with a design to ornament it.

In the house is a very fine collection of antique busts and statues; likewise several pictures by the most eminent hands. Among others, a well executed picture of Europa, by Guido; Venus rising from



## 118 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

from the bath, by Morellis; holy family, by Carlo Moratt; a dance of boy angels, by Pouffin; a most beautiful landscape, by Pouffin; another landscape, by the same hand; a sleeping Cupid, by Titian; there are a number of paintings, exceedingly beautiful and well selected. From Beaconsfield the road passes to

*High Wycomb*, twenty-nine miles and three quarters from London. It is likewise called Chipping Wycomb; the first appellation is derived from the Saxon, and signifies a market; and the latter from Comb, a British word for valley; this town being situate on a vale, on the turning of a little river, which falls into the Thames. The town is large, consisting of one large street, and several smaller ones, lined with good houses and inns. When this town was incorporated, is not certainly known, though Mr. Willis thinks it was in the reign of Edward IV. The corporation consists of a Mayor, Recorder, twelve Aldermen, a Town Clerk, Common-council, &c. This town, by preserving its privilege of sending members to parliament, claims pre-eminence over every other in the county, it having had representatives for about three hundred years, and is not only the best built and wealthiest town in Buckinghamshire, but is also reckoned one of the greatest corn-markets in this part of England. The church is a large structure, the steeple not ill built, and the town has a free grammar-school and two alms-houses, for the maintenance of which Queen Elizabeth granted several lands, which before the reformation belonged to a monastery of black monks, and an hospital of St John of Jerusalem, which were situated here.

In July 1724, as some workmen were digging in a meadow near this town, they discovered a curious piece of Roman antiquity, being a pavement of about nine feet square, with stones of various colours

colours wrought with exquisite art, but the biggest not broader than the square of a dye.

Having passed Wycomb you find the country very hilly, and the soil chiefly chalk; beech-woods are also very prevalent here. Approaching towards West Wycomb, you meet with the noble seat of Lord Le Despencer; the situation of the house is very agreeable, on an eminence rising from a most elegant river, which meanders through the park and gardens; before the house it forms an elbow, which has the appearance of a large lake, on which rides a handsome yacht, completely rigged, with a long boat, and another lying along side; her masts rising above the adjoining trees, in a manner which adds greatly to the landscape.

On the other side of the road, on the summit of a hill, which overlooks the park and the whole county; his lordship has built a new church, pretty much in the old taste, and very near it a mausoleum—a sex-angled open wall of flints, with stone ornaments, and a row of Tuscan pillars; on the inside runs a grater of stone around it, and two of the six divisions are occupied with dedications to the late Earl of Westmoreland and Lord Melcomb. In the golden ball, on the top of the church, is deposited the heart of Paul Whitehead, Esq. who bequeathed it to his lordship, as the last testimony of his friendship.

These buildings cannot claim much commendation, and appear to the eye from many points of view, one structure; we cannot help likewise, remarking, that however good the intention of his lordship was, in erecting a place of devotion for the inhabitants, yet it appears highly ridiculous to build it on such a very steep eminence, that the aged, the lame and the infirm, cannot reach the place of devotion without great fatigue to their legs and lungs. Indeed, they must be extremely devout that will  
crawl

crawl up this precipice twice a day to offer up their prayers. If his lordship constantly attends, it is to be doubted but the effects of age may in time convince him of the impropriety of erecting a place of devotion so exceedingly high, as is enough to deter many from reaching it. To those indeed, who ascend it merely for the beauty of the prospect, it fully answers the end, for a more delightful view is scarce to be found, the eye commanding his lordship's park, and the whole surrounding county.

Quitting this road, and crossing over the river Thames at Windsor, we come to Eaton, one of the finest grammar schools in this kingdom.

The buildings, except the great school-room, are ancient; the chapel Gothic; but all have been repaired, at a great expence, out of the college stock, within these few years, and a handsome library built for the reception of books.

In the great court, a copper statute is erected to the honour of the royal founder, by Dr. Godolphin, late Dean of St. Paul's, and Provost of this college; and the library has received several considerable benefactions; particularly, not many years ago, the fine collection of Richard Topham, Esq. formerly Keeper of the Records in the Tower, which was presented to it by the late excellent Lord Chief Justice Reeves, and Dr. Mead, his executors. Before that, a collection of books, valued at two thousand pounds, was left to it by Dr. Waddington, late Bishop of Chichester. Dr. Godolphin, aforesaid, the Rev. Mr. Reynolds, and Nicholas Man, Esq. were also benefactors to this library.

The gardens, which extend from the college down almost to the bank of the Thames, are well planted and kept.

This college was founded, anno 1440, by King Henry VI. a Prince munificent in his gifts for the encouragement of learning. Witness, besides this noble

noble foundation, that of King's College in Cambridge, to which the scholars of Eton are annually removed; and which, had it been perfected as the King designed it, would have been the noblest building of the kind in the world. But his deposer and successor, King Edward IV. took several manors from Eton College, and bestowed them on their neighbours at Windsor; and had intended to have taken from them still more, had not the celebrated Jane Shore, one of his mistresses, solicited in their behalf.

This College has a settled revenue of about five thousand pounds per annum, and maintains a provost, a vice-provost, who is also a fellow, six other fellows, and seventy scholars on the foundation, besides a full choir for the chapel, with necessary officers and servants. The school is divided into the upper and lower, and each into three classes; each school has one master, and each four assistants or ushers. None are received into the upper school till they can make Latin verses, and have a tolerable knowledge of the Greek. In the lower school the children are received very young, and are initiated into all school-learning. Besides the seventy scholars upon the foundation, there are always abundance of children, generally speaking, of the best families, and of persons of distinction; who are boarded either in the houses of the townsmen, or within the College.

The number of scholars instructed here used to be from four to five hundred.

The election of scholars for the University, out of this school, is made annually, on the first Tuesday in August: in order to it three persons are deputed, from King's College in Cambridge; viz. the provost of that college, and one senior, and one junior poser, fellows of the same, who being joined by the provost, vice-provost, and head-master of

Q

Eton



Eton College, call before them the scholars of the upper class; and, examining them in the several parts of their learning, choose out of twelve such as they think best qualified, and enter them in a roll, or list, for the University. These youths are not immediately removed from the school, but must wait till vacancies fall in King's College; and, as such happen, are then taken as they stand in seniority in the roll of election.

When a scholar from Eton comes to King's College, he is received upon the foundation, and pursues his studies there for three years: after which he claims a fellowship, unless forfeited by marriage, accepting of ecclesiastical preferments, &c. according to the terms of the statutes.

The provost has a noble house and gardens, besides the use of the college gardens.

The Bath road enters this county at

*Colnbrook*, seventeen miles from London; it is situated on the river Coln, which is here and in the road to it divided into four channels, over each of which it has a bridge, and therefore it is supposed by *Camden* and others, to be the Pontes of the Itinerary. The town is small, but has a number of good inns.

*Slough*, twenty miles and an half from London, likewise chiefly consists of inns; and near it at *Salt Hill*, are those two famous ones of the Windmill and Castle, which for pleasant situation can vie with most in the kingdom.

From Maidenhead, you cross the road to

*Great Marlow*, thirty-one miles from London.

It derives its names from the marl, which abounds in the adjacent soil. It is a pretty large borough, though not incorporate, and first sent members to parliament in the reign of Edward II. The chief manufacture carried on in this town is Bone-lace, and it is of note for its great embarkation on the

river

river Thames, great quantities of malt and marl being brought here from High-Wickham, and goods from the neighbouring towns, and of beech from several parts of the country, where that wood abounds more than in any other part of England.

Here is a handsome church and town hall, and a charity-school for twenty boys, taught and clothed, &c. at the expence of the Borlace's family. Here are a number of mills for pressing of oil, &c. in the neighbourhood of this town.

On the right, near the Thames is *Chiefden*, the seat of the Earl of Inchiquin, an Irish Peer. It was first began by George Duke of Buckingham, and finished by the late Earl of Orkeney, to whom it descended by marriage. His late Royal Highness Frederic Prince of Wales made it his summer retreat; and extended and enlarged both house and gardens, and made them most delightful, insomuch, that in every part, or wherever the eye is turned, nothing is offered to the sight but the most agreeable avenues, parterres, fine lawns heightened by an extensive view of the river Thames, and a most beautiful and well cultivated country. The house is a stately regular edifice, and the rooms spacious and noble. In the grand chamber, the tapestry hangings represent the battles of the late Duke of Marlborough, wrought to great perfection, by order of the late Earl of Orkney, who was himself an officer of superior rank in these glorious campaigns. On the front of the house is raised a most glorious terrace walk, said to be higher than the terrace at Windsor Castle.

Lower down the river, not far from Maidenhead-bridge, is a small aight or islet in the river, formed by the late Duke of Marlborough, into a beautiful retirement for pleasure or fishing in the summer-season. The buildings upon it are commodious, in an elegant taste and highly finished.

On

On the other side of the county, the Bridgenorth road enters from Uxbridge, and passes through

*Amersham*, or *Agmondesham*, twenty-six miles from London. The town is small, but very ancient, situated in a vale on the river Chiltern, and surrounded with woods and groves of beeches. The town has no corporation, but sends members to parliament, and is governed by burghesses. It consists of two streets, which cross each other at right angles. In the area, where these streets intersect each other, stands the church, which is the best rectory in the county. The market-house is a good building, erected by Sir William Drake; it is a brick structure, raised on pillars and arches, having a top, a lanthorn, and a clock. Here is a free-school founded by Queen Elizabeth.

On the side of the road, in the way to Aylesbury, is *Cheesham*, a small market town; and higher up is *Wendover*, an old corporate town, but a mean and dirty place, but it has pleasant hills on each side. It sends two members to parliament. Near this town is *Well-head*, a small spring, which is the first rise of the Thames.

*Aylesbury*, forty miles from London. Is a very ancient town, and one of the largest and best in the county. It stands at the east end of a rich fertile vale, which feeds incredible numbers of cattle and sheep, most remarkable for their fine fleeces, and extends almost from Tame on the edge of Oxfordshire, to Loughton in Bedfordshire. It is mentioned for its strength in the time of the Saxons, and in the time of the Conqueror it was a royal manor; and several yard-lands, says *Camden*,—"Were here given by the King upon condition that the holders of them should find litter, i. e. *Straw*, for the King's bed, I hope, says he, the nice part of the world will observe this, whenever he comes hither." The author of the *Addenda* adds, that

that this tenure was held by William Earl of Ailebury; and besides that service, he was likewise to provide straw for his chamber, and three eels whenever he should come thither in winter. If he came in summer, besides straw for the bed, he was to provide sweet herbs for the King's bed-chamber, and two green geese; and which he was to do thrice a year, if the King comes so often thither.

The town is neat, compact, and populous, and stands on a rising ground. Lord Chief Justice Baldwin, who purchased this manor in the reign of King Henry VIII. built a handsome fabric in the middle of the market-place, and very much improved it in other respects. It was incorporated by Queen Mary in January 1753-4, in the name of a bailiff, ten aldermen, burgeses, &c. and granted also that the town should be a county within itself, and have the power of chusing two members to parliament. The chief officer now is the constable, who is put in by the Lord of the Manor, or chose by the inhabitants, and by him confirmed. Provisions are here very cheap and plentiful, owing to its situation in such a fertile part of the county; but the country about the town is rather low and dirty.

The chief employment of the poor in those parts is in making lace for edging, which are reckoned little inferior to those made in Flanders. In this fine vale of Aiterburgh, flourished the great and noble family of Hampdens, for many ages, in possession of very large estates: most of them are now enjoyed by Lord Trevor, who has taken the name of Hampden.

*Buckingham*, fifty-seven miles from London, is situated in a low ground, encompassed on all sides but the north, with the river Ouse. It is the county-town, and governed by a bailiff and capital burgeses.



gessies. In the time of the Romans, in the year 44, Aulus Plautius is said to have obtained his first victory over the Britons on the banks of the Ouse, near this town: on the conversion of the Saxons, it became remarkable for the sepulchre of Rumbold, the infant Saint; whose coffin was afterwards found in the church. About 913, King Edward the Elder built a castle here, and another not far off, on the river Ouse, to defend it against the Danes. The castle was seated in the middle of the town, on a great mount, but scarce any of its ruins are remaining. It was a corporation, and had summons to send members to parliament in the reign of Edward III. but does not appear to have done so till the thirty-sixth of Henry VIII. though from Edward the VIth's time it has sent them regularly. Queen Mary granted it a corporation, and on the surrender of the old charter in 1684, King Charles II. granted it a new one, consisting of a mayor and aldermen, but the old charter was restored four years after.

The buildings of this town are old; the church is well built, and there is a chapel erected by Archbishop Becket, now used as a free-school. It has three stone bridges over the Ouse, on the banks of which river are several paper mills. The county goal and court are kept here, and by virtue of a late act of parliament, the summer assizes are held in it. The town sends two members to parliament.

On the 25th of March, 1725, a great fire happened here, by which an hundred and thirty-eight families, containing five hundred and seven persons, lost to the amount of thirty-two thousand six hundred and eighty-two pounds at least, in houses and goods.

It would be an unpardonable omission, not to take notice of *Slow*, the seat of Earl Temple, in  
this

this neighbourhood, whose park and woods occupy a great part of the county, from Buckingham to Towcester.

This seat is most delightfully situated, in the most eligible spot of this part of the county. The present Earl has made great improvements, especially in raising a new and beautiful front to the house, embellished with proper emblems and other ornaments.

As the house and gardens are one of the chief ornaments to the English nation, and justly admired by all foreigners, we shall be a little particular in our description of them.

The house, which is very large, extends in front nine hundred feet. The hall, thirty-six feet by twenty. Out of the former is an handsome apartment of two dressing-rooms and a bed-chamber, twenty by sixteen. The chapel is of cedar, beautifully ornamented with fine carved work and paintings: the altar-piece, the resurrection, by Tintoret. The Glenville-room thirty-six by twenty-five, adorned with many modern portraits of the family. The dining-room, forty-three by twenty-five: here are some pieces of statuary that deserve attention. A Narcissus, an elegant figure; the attitude easy: Vertumnus and Pomona, by Scheemaker; and Venus and Adonis, by Delveau.

#### STATE APARTMENTS.

##### I. The State Gallery,

Seventy feet nine inches by twenty-five, and twenty-two high. Two marble chimney-pieces of Siena, &c. The ceiling finely ornamented with paintings and gilding, by Sclater. Two fine large marble tables, with two large pier glasses. The walls are adorned with curious pieces of Brussels tapestry, representing

representing the triumphs of Diana, Mars, Venus, Bacchus and Ceres.

The piers are adorned with trophies.

Two chimnies, the upper parts of which are adorned with gilding and carving.

1. Representing Mercury conducting tragic and comic poetry to the hill of Parnassus.

2. A goddess conducting Learning to Truth.

The chairs and settees of blue damask, with carved and gilded frames.

## II. The State Dressing-room,

Twenty-four feet eight inches, by thirty, and nineteen feet four inches high; hung with blue damask chairs and window-curtains of the same. The doors and cieling are finely ornamented with carving and gilding. The paintings here are,

A fine portrait of the late Lord Cobham; by Sir Godfrey Kneller.

Four conversation pieces; by Francisco Cippo.

Venus binding the eyes of Cupid; and the Graces offering tribute; by Titian.

A marble table with a fine pier glass.

## III. The State Bed-chamber,

Fifty-six feet eight inches, by twenty-five feet ten inches, and eighteen feet eight inches high. The bed and cieling by Signor Borra. The chairs and hangings of crimson damask. Pillars of the Corinthian order: the whole finely carved and gilt.

A Madona from the school of Rubens.

A picture over the chimney.

A very curious chimney-piece of white marble, designed by Signor Borra.

Two marble tables.

Two fine large pier glasses.

## IV. The

## IV. The State Closet,

Hung with blue damask, finely ornamented with carving and gilding. Out of which you go into a colonade, where you have a beautiful view of the gardens, as well as the country; and the passage is ornamented with marble busts.

There is also a grand stair-case, adorned with paintings of the four Seasons. The cieling represents the rising sun, by Phœbus in his car.

## THE GARDENS.

These have undergone a variety of improvements; they were at first sketched out in the ancient mode of broad strait gravel walks, and avenues of trees, with regular waters.

You enter this garden on the south by two light pavilions, of the Doric order, designed by Sir John Vanbrugh. They are adorned with rough masterly paintings, by Nollikins. The stories are from Pastor Fido.\*

Almost the first striking object which occurs, is an obelisk, near seventy feet high, designed for a Jet d'Eau, and placed in the middle of a large octagon piece of water. At some distance we perceive two rivers, which are at last united, and enter the octagon in one stream. Over one of these is a Palladian bridge. From this point, a Gothic edifice dedicated to Liberty, seventy feet in height, appears on the top of a hill. On the left is an Egyptian pyramid; from whence we were formerly conducted to the cold-bath. Here we have a prospect of a natural cascade, falling from the last mentioned octagon, in three distinct sheets, into an extensive lake. One of the sheets passes through the arch of an artificial ruin, covered with ever-greens.

\* Act ii, Scene 3.—Act iii, Scene 2.



But it is time to drop this general and collective detail, into which, the first admittance to a promiscuous survey of so many beauties has imperceptibly betrayed us. We therefore proceed to give a circumstantial and distinct display of each remarkable particular, as it severally and successively presents itself, in our progress through the gardens.

The hermitage, built of rough stone and agreeably situated in a rising wood, on the banks of the lake.

The statues of Cain and Abel, which are finely executed.

The Temple of Venus, with the inscription, *Veneri Hortensi*; i. e. "To the garden of Venus." It was designed by Kent; and is painted with the story of Hellenore and Malbecco\*, by Sleter. It is adorned in the front with the busts of Nero, Vespasian, Cleopatra, and Faustina. Over the frieze is the following motto alluding to the painting, from a poem ascribed to Catullus.

Nunc amet, qui nunquam amavit;  
Quique amavit, nunc amet.

Thus translated by Parnell,

Let him love now who never lov'd before;  
Let him who ever lov'd, now love the more.

The Belvidere, or Gibbes's building. Underneath is an ice-house.

The Roman boxers, admirably copied, and judiciously placed, on the ground not unnaturally mounted in the air, on an high pedestal.

Two pavilions. One of them is used as a dwelling-house; the other is ornamented with the statues of Julius Cæsar, Cicero, Portia, and Livia.

\* Spencer's Fairy Queen, B. 3. C. 3.

The

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. 131

The Egyptian pyramid, which is sixty feet in height, with this inscription. “ Inter plurima hor-  
torum horum ædificia a Johanne Vanbrugh, equite,  
designata, hanc Pyramidem illius memoriæ sacram  
voluit Cobham.”

That is, “ Among the many edifices in these  
gardens designed by Sir John Vanbrugh, Cobham  
dedicates this in particular, to his memory.”

Within is the following inscription from Horace.

Lufisti fatis, edifti fatis, atque bibifti,  
Tempus abire tibi eft ; ne potum largis æquo  
Rideat et pulfe lascivia decentius ætus.

Thus translated, extempore, by a gentleman on  
the spot ;

Enough, my friend, you’ve trifled, drank and eat,  
’Tis time, at least ’tis prudence, to retreat ;  
Lest wanton boys exert their decent rage,  
And kick you drunk and reeling from the stage.

The statues of Hercules and Antæus, situated in  
a field, enclosed with a fence of stakes, after the  
military manner.

St. Augustine’s cave, a monastic cell, built with  
moss and roots : within is a straw couch, and the  
following inscriptions, which are extremely happy  
in the stile of the old monkish Latin verse, and said  
to be composed by Mr. Glover, the ingenious au-  
thor of Leonidas.

On the right-hand :

Sanctus Pater Auguftinus,  
(Prout aliquis divinus  
Narrat) contra fenfualem  
Actum Veneris lethalem,

(Audiat

(Audiant clericus) ex nive,  
 Similem puellam vivæ,  
 Arte mire conformabat,  
 Quacum bonus vir cubabat :  
 Quod si fas est in errorem  
 Tantum cadere doctorem,  
 Qæri potest, an carnalis  
 Mulier potius, quam nivalis,  
 Non sit apta ad domandum,  
 Subigendum, debellandum,  
 Carnis tumidum furorem,  
 Et importunum ardorem?  
 Nam lignis igne pellitur,  
 Vetus ut verbum loquitur.  
 Sed innuptus, hac in lite,  
 Appellabo te, marite.

That is, "The holy father Austin, (as some divines tell us) against the sensual and deadly act of lust—(give ear, ye priest)—framed by wondrous art, a girl of snow, resembling the life; with whom the good man used to lie. But if it be allowable for so great a doctor to fall into error, may we not reasonably ask, whether or not a girl of flesh and blood, is not better qualified than one made of snow, to allay the importunate ardours of lust? For as the old maxim says, fire is expelled by fire. But I, an unmarried man, appeal to married men for a solution of this difficulty."

On the left:

Apparuit mihi, nuper in Somnio Mulier cum nudis et anhelantibus molliter Papillis et hianti suaviter Vultu—cheu! benedicite!

Cur gaudes, Satana, muliebre formam  
 Non facies Voti casti me rumpere normam

Heus!

Heus ! fugite in Cellam ; pulchram vitate Puellam ;  
Nam Radix Mortis fuit olim Fœmina in Hortis.

Vis fieri fortis ? Noli concumbere Scortis.

In Sanctum Originem Eunuchum.  
Filius Ecclesiæ Origines fortasse probetur ;  
Esse patrem nunquam se sine Teste probet.  
Virtus Diaboli est in Lumbis.

That is, “ A girl with a naked and panting  
bosom lately appeared to me in a dream, &c. &c.”

“ Why, O Satan, do you chuse to appear in a  
female shape ? You will never force me to break  
my vows of chastity.—Haste, fly into your cell,  
and escape from the power of beauty ; for the root  
of death was heretofore a woman in the garden.”

“ Would you be strong ? avoid unlawful enjoy-  
ments.”

The last cannot be easily translated. Nor is it  
possible, by the best English translation to give a  
just idea of the rest ; the turn and humour of which  
is inherent in the Latin. The same may be said of  
the following, which fronts the door.

Mente pie elatâ, peragro dum dulcia Prata,  
Dormiit, absque dolo, pulchre Puella solo ;  
Multa ostendebat, dum semisupina jacebat,  
Pulchrum Os, divinum Pectus aperta Sinum.

Ut vidi Mammæ, concepi extempore Flammæ,

Et dicturus AVE dico, MARIA, CAVE :

Nam magno totus violenter turbine motus,

Pœne illam invado, pœne et in ora cado.

Illæ sed haud lente surgit, curritque repente,

Currit et, invito me, fugit illa citò.

Fugit Causa Mali, tamen Effectus Satanali :

Internoque meum cor vorat Igne reum.

O inferne



O inferne Canis, cur quotidie est tibi Panis,  
 Per Visus miros sollicitare Viros ?  
 Cur Monachos velles fieri tam Carne rebelles,  
 Nec castæ Legi turbidi Membra regi ?  
 En tibi jam Bellum dico, jam triste Flagellum  
 Esuriemque paro, quæis subigenda Caro.  
 Quin abscindatur, ne Pars sincera trahatur,  
 Radix, quo solus nascitur usque dolus.

That is, "As filled with devotion, I wandered over the delightful meadows; a beautiful virgin was sleeping on the ground: as she lay half reclined, she discovered many beauties. Her naked bosom awakened my desires, and as I am about to say AVE MARIA, I cried out MARY BEWARE. My sudden passion almost tempted me to seize her in my arms; but she arose, and suddenly fled from me.—The cause of my pain is departed, but the effect still remains, and devours my guilty heart with inward fires. O thou dog of hell, why is it thy daily food to tempt mankind with these strange spectacles? Why is it your pleasure to raise rebellion in the flesh of monks, nor ever to suffer their turbulent emotions to submit to the laws of chastity? But I now declare war against you; and intend to conquer my passions with the scourge, and with hunger. But perhaps it is best to cut off the root of evil, lest the sound parts should be infected.

The temple of Bacchus, an edifice of brick: its inside is adorned with Bacchanalian scenes, painted by Nollikins. Among the rest, are two vases touched in a masterly manner. Some of the smaller figures, in particular, demand our attention.

A small obelisk, with this inscription, to the memory of Robin Coucher."

The

The Saxon temple. An altar situated in an open grove, about which, the seven Saxon deities which denominate the seven days of the week, were formerly placed, but these have been since removed to the Gothic temple.

Nelson's seat. This is an elegant little building, from whence there is an agreeable open prospect: in the inside are the following inscriptions, explaining the paintings, in which the boys fixing the trophies are elegantly fancied.

On the right-hand,

Ultra Euphratem et Tigrim  
usque ad Oceanum propagatâ ditione,  
Orbis Terrarum Imperium Romæ adsignat optimus  
Princeps,  
cui super advolat Victoria  
Laurigerum sertum hinc inde  
utraq; manu extendens,  
comitantibus Pietate et Abundantiâ.  
*In arcu Constantini.*

That is, " Beyond Euphrates and Tigris, having extended his dominion even to the ocean, the most excellent prince assigns the empire of the world to Rome; above whom flies Victory, extending a laurel wreath on either side, with both hands, attended with Piety and Plenty."

*In the arch of Constantine.*

On the left,

Post Obitum L. Veri.  
in imperio cum Marco consortis.  
Roma  
integram orbis Terrarum  
potestatem ei et in eo contulit.

*In capitolii.*

That

That is, "After the death of Lucius Verus, associate in the empire with Marcus, Rome conferred on him the entire command of the whole earth."

*In the Capitol.*

The equestrian statue of King George the First in complete armour, placed at the head of the canal, opposite the north front of the house, with this inscription from Virgil :

In medio mihi Cæsar erit.

Et viridi in Campo Signum de Marmore ponam  
Propter Aquam.

COBHAM.

Thus translated :

"Full in the midst shall Cæsars form divine  
Auspicious stand, the godhead of the shrine.—  
And near the stream a marble statue rear."

The statue of his late Majesty, raised on a Corinthian pillar, with this inscription :

Georgio Augusto.

That is, "To George Augustus."

Dido's cave; a retired dark building, with this inscription, from Virgil :

Speluncam Dido, dux et Trojanus, eandem  
Deveniunt.—

Thus translated on the spot :

"To the safe covert of one cavern came  
The Trojan Leader, and the Tyrian Dame."

The

The judicious spectator will observe, that the figures of the two Cupids joining their torches are finely painted.

The rotunda, supported by Ionic pillars, and designed by Sir John Vanbrugh. Within is a statue of Venus de Medicis, on a pedestal of blue marble.—Scarce any object in the whole garden shews itself to more advantage than this structure, or makes a more beautiful figure, from several different points of prospect.

The statue of the late Queen, erected on four Ionic columns, and situated in a rural amphitheatre, with this inscription :

Honori, Laudi, Virtuti, Divæ Carolinæ.

That is, “ To the honour, praise, and virtue of the goddess Caroline.”

The sleeping parlour ; a square building, with an elegant Ionic portico, situated in a close wood, with this inscription :

Cum omnia sint in incerto, save tibi.

That is, “ Since all things are uncertain, take your pleasure.”

The witch-house ; a square building. The paintings on the walls are done by the late lord’s gentleman ; and rude and inartificial as they may seem, are much in character.

The temple of modern Virtue ; in ruins.

The temple of ancient Virtue ; a complete and beautiful rotunda of the Ionic order, designed by Kent. Over each door, on the outside, is this motto : “ PRISCÆ VIRTUTI.” That is, “ To ancient  
S Virtue.”



Virtue." In four niches within, standing at full length, are the following statues :

### I. EPAMINONDAS.

Cujus a virtute, prudentia, verecundia,  
Thebanorum respublica  
Libertatem simul et imperium,  
Disciplinam bellicam, civilem et domesticam,  
Accepit ;  
Eoque amisso, perdidit.

That is, " Epaminondas, from whose valour, prudence and moderation, the republic of Thebes acquired its liberty and power ; its military, civil, and domestic discipline ; and at whose death it was deprived of them."

### II. LYCURGUS.

Qui summo cum consilio inventis legibus  
Omnemque contra corruptelam munitis optime,  
Pater patriæ,  
Libertatem firmissimam,  
Et mores sanctissimos,  
Expulsa cum divitiis avaritia, luxuria, libidine,  
In multa secula  
Civibus suis instituit.

That is, " Lycurgus, who having invented laws with the greatest prudence, and most wisely guarded them against every species of corruption ; the father of his country, established for his countrymen, thro' many ages the most unshaken liberty, the most unblemished morals ; having expelled avarice, luxury, and lust, by banishing wealth."

### III. SO-

## III. SOCRATES.

Qui corruptissima in civitate innocens,  
 Bonorum hortator, unicus cultor DEI,  
 Ab inutili otio, et vanis disputationibus,  
 Ad officia vitæ, et societatis commoda,  
 Philosophum avocavit,  
 Hominum sapientissimus.

That is, "Socrates, who being virtuous in a most corrupt city, an encourager of all good men, called off philosophy from useless leisure and empty disputations, to the duties of life, and the conveniences of society."

## IV. HOMERUS.

Qui poetarum princeps, idem et maximus;  
 Virtutis præco, et immortalitatis largitor,  
 Divino carmine,  
 Ad pulchre audendum, et patiendum fortiter;  
 Omnibus notus gentibus, omnes incitat.

That is, "Homer, who being the first and greatest of poets, the herald of virtue, and the dispenser of immortality, known to all nations, excites all nations to dare with honour, and to suffer with resolution."

Over one door is this inscription :

"Carum esse civem, bene de republica mereri, laudari, coli, diligere, gloriosum est : metui vero et in odio esse, invidiosum, detestabile, imbecillum, caducum."

That is, "To be dear to our country, to deserve well of the commonwealth, to be praised, honoured, and beloved, is glorious ; but to be feared and hated is odious, detestable, hazardous, and unsafe."

And

And over the other

"Justitiam cole et pietatem, quæ cum sit magna in parentibus et propinquis, tum in patria maxima est. Ea vita via est in cœlum, in hunc cœtum eorum qui jam vixerint."

That is, "Regard justice and religion, which, though a matter of great importance to our parents and friends, is of still greater effect with regard to our country: through such a course of life is the road to heaven, and this assembly of those who have lived before us."

An arch erected to the Princess Amelia; the fides, Apollo and the nine Muses.

Here we cross the serpentine river, whence we pass into the Elysian-fields; a most delicious retreat, in which is placed,

The temple of the British Worthies. This edifice is disposed into niches, filled with the following bustos.

Pope. Without any inscription.

"Sir Thomas Gresham, who, by the honourable profession of a merchant, having enriched himself, and his country, for carrying on the commerce of the world, built the Royal Exchange."

"Ignatius Jones, who to adorn his country, introduced and rivalled the Greek and Roman architecture."

"John Milton, whose sublime and unbounded genius equalled a subject that carried him beyond the limits of the world."

"William Shakespeare, whose excellent genius opened to him the whole heart of man, all the mines of fancy, all the stores of nature; and gave him power, beyond all other writers, to move, astonish, and delight mankind."

"John Locke, who best of all philosophers, understood the powers of the human mind, the nature,

nature, end and bounds of civil government; and with equal courage and sagacity, refuted the slavish systems of usurped authority over the rights, the consciences, or the reason of mankind."

"Sir Isaac Newton, whom the God of Nature made to comprehend his works; and from simple principles, to discover the laws never known before, and to explain the appearances, never understood of this stupendous universe."

"Sir Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam, who by the strength and light of a superior genius, rejecting vain speculations, and fallacious theory, taught to pursue truth, and improve philosophy by the certain method of experiment."

In the niche of a pyramid is placed a Mercury, with these words subscribed:

— Campos ducit ad Elysios.

That is, "Leads to the Elysian fields."

And below this figure is fixed a square of black marble, with the following lines:

Hic manus ob patriam pugnando vulnera passi,  
 Quique pii vates, et Phœbo digna locuti,  
 Inventas aut qui vitam excoluere per artes,  
 Quique sui memores alios fecere merendo.

Here chiefs, who bled to save their country, stray;  
 Here bards, who virtuous, pour'd the moral lay;  
 With those whom useful arts consign'd to fame,  
 And all whose merits memory loves to name.

"King Alfred, the mildest, justest, and most beneficent of Kings; who drove out the Danes, secured the seas, protected learning, established juries,  
 crushed



crushed corruption, guarded liberty, and was the founder of the English constitution.

“ Edward, Prince of Wales, the terror of Europe, the delight of England; who preserved, unaltered, in the height of glory and fortune, his natural gentleness and modesty.”

“ Queen Elizabeth, who confounded the projects and destroyed the power, that threatened to oppress the liberties of Europe; took off the yoke of ecclesiastical tyranny; restored religion from the corruptions of popery; and by a wise, a moderate, and a popular government, gave wealth, security, and respect to England.”

“ King William III. who, by his virtue and constancy, having saved his country from a foreign master, by a bold and generous enterprize, preserved the liberty and religion of Great Britain.”

“ Sir Walter Raleigh, a valiant soldier, and an able statesman; who, endeavouring to rouse the spirit of his master, for the honour of his country, against the ambition of Spain, fell a sacrifice to the influence of that court whose arms he had vanquished, and whose designs he opposed.”

“ Sir Francis Drake, who, through many perils, was the first of Britons that adventured to sail round the globe; and carried into unknown seas and nations the knowledge and glory of the English name.”

“ John Hampden, who, with great spirit, and consummate abilities, begun a noble opposition to an arbitrary court, in defence of the liberties of his country; supported them in parliament, and died for them in the field.”

Sir John Barnard, without any inscription.

On the backside of this building is the following inscription :

To the Memory of  
**S I G N I O R F I D O,**  
 an ITALIAN of good Extraction;  
 who came into ENGLAND,  
 not to bite us, like most of his Countrymen,  
 but to gain an honest livelihood.  
 He hunted not after Fame,  
 yet acquired it;  
 regardless of the praise of his Friends,  
 but most sensible of their Love,  
 Though he lived amongst the Great,  
 he neither learned nor flattered any Vice,  
 He was no Bigot,  
 Tho' he doubted none of the xxxix Articles,  
 And, if to follow nature,  
 and to respect the laws of Society,  
 be Philosophy,  
 He was a perfect Philosopher :  
 a faithful Friend,  
 An agreeable companion,  
 A loving Husband,  
 distinguished by a numerous Offspring  
 all which he lived to see take good Courses.  
 In his old age he retired  
 to the House of a Clergyman in the Country,  
 where he finished his earthly race,  
 and died an Honour and an Example to the whole  
 Species.

**R E A D E R,**  
 this Stone is guiltless of Flattery ;  
 for he to whom it is inscribed  
 was not a Man,  
 but a

**GREY-HOUND.**

The

## The shell bridge

The Chinese-house, situated, after the Chinese manner, upon a large piece of water: we enter it by a bridge decorated with Chinese vases; it is a square building, with four lattices, and covered with sail cloth. The windows and roof, together with its cool situation on the lake, afford us a just specimen of the manner of living in a hot country. Within is the figure of a Chinese lady asleep: The outside of the house is painted in the Chinese taste; by Mr. Sleter: the inside of India Japan work.

## The temple of contemplation.

The grotto, situated at the head of the serpentine river, furnished with a great number of looking-glasses, both on the walls and cieling, fixed in frames of plaister-work, stuck with shells and flints: it has a marble statue of Venus on a pedestal adorned in the same manner. On each side is a pavilion; one of which is ornamented with shells, the other with broken flints and pebbles.

The ladies temple, supported by groin arches, with Venetian windows. The inside is beautified with the following paintings by Sleter: on the right side, ladies employed in needle and shell work: on the opposite side, ladies engaged in painting and music.

The Grecian temple: a large pile of the Ionic order, after the manner of the temple of Minerva at Athens.

Captain Grenville's monument, with this inscription:

Sororis suæ Filio  
THOMÆ GRENVILLE.

Qui navis præfectus regiæ,  
Ducente classem Britannicam Georgio Anson,  
Dum contra Gallos fortissimè pugnaret,  
Dilaceratæ navis ingenti fragmine

Femore

Femore graviter percusso,  
Perire dixit moribundus, omnino satius esse,  
Quam inertiae reum in judicio sisti;  
Columnam hanc rostratam  
Laudans et mærens posuit

COBHAM.

Insigne virtutis, cheu ! rarissimæ  
Exemplum habes ;  
Ex quo discas

Quid virum præfectura militari ornatum  
Deceat.

M.DCC.XLVII.

That is, " To the son of his sister, Thomas Grenville, who being captain of one of his Majesty's ships, under the command of Admiral Anson, while he valiantly fought against the French, and was mortally wounded in the thigh, declaring in his last moments that it was better to suffer than to be tried for cowardice, COBHAM, expressing at once his approbation and regret, erected this rostrated column. This is, alas ! an example of courage too seldom found, from whence we may learn, how it becomes a commander to behave."

A spacious basin of water, designed for the triumphal arch.

A fluted column, with these inscriptions :

On one side.

To preserve the memory of her husband,

Ann, Viscountess Cobham,

Caused this pillar to be erected

In the year 1747.

On the opposite side.

Quatenus nobis denegatur diu vivere,

relinquamus aliquid

quo nos vixisse testemur.

T

That



That is, "As it is not permitted us to live long, let us leave something behind as a testimony of our having lived."

The Gothic temple, with this inscription:

Je rends graces aux Dieu de n' estre pas Romain.

That is, "I thank God for not being a Roman."

This is a spacious edifice of red stone, terminated with towers and pinnacles, seventy feet high, and placed on the summit of a hill. The windows are of glass, curiously stained, and the inside of the dome is characteristically decorated with the arms of his lordship's family, from their rise to the present time. About it are the seven statues, which, as we mentioned above, originally surrounded the Saxon altar.

The Palladian bridge, adorned with several antique marble bustos. The roof on the side facing the water, is supported by Ionic pillars. The back wall is covered with a fine piece of alto relievo, which represents the four quarters of the world bringing their various products to Britannia. Here are also paintings of Sir Walter Raleigh, with a map of Virginia; and of Sir William Pen, presenting the laws of Pensilvania, performed by Sleter.

The imperial closet; a square room, in which are painted by the last mentioned artist, three of the worthiest of the Roman Emperors; each of which is respectively distinguished by a memorable saying of his own, fixed over him.

IMP. TITUS CÆS VESPASIAN.

Diem perdidit.—

That is, "I have lost a day."

IMP.

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. 147

IMP. N. TRAJAN CÆS. AU.

Pro me: si merear, in me,

That is, "For me: but if I deserve it, against me."

IMP. MARCUS AURELIUS  
CÆSAR ANTONIUS.

Ita regnes imperator, ut privatus regi te velis.

That is, "So govern when a King, as you would desire to be governed if a subject."

A grand terras walk, near three hundred feet long, which leads us to,

The temple of friendship; a well proportioned structure of the Doric order. The emblem of friendship above the door, those of Justice and Liberty, with the rest of the decorations, are elegantly touched. Britannia is seated upon the ceiling: on one side are exhibited, the glory of her annals, the reigns of Queen Elizabeth and Edward III. On the other is offered the reign of — which she covers with her mantle, and seems unwilling to accept. This painting is executed by Mr. Sleter. The motto of this temple is,

Amicitiae S.

That is, "Sacred to Friend."

Here are the busts of the late lord, and his illustrious friends, viz. Frederic Prince of Wales; Earls of Westmoreland, Chesterfield, and Marchmont; Lords Cobham, Gower, and Bathurst; Richard Grenville, William Pitt, and George Littleton, Esqrs.

The pebble alcove, a little grotto, ornamented with his pebbles; in which likewise his lordship's arms are curiously wrought on the back wall.

Congreve's.

# 148. BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Congreves monument; the embellishments of which are emblematical of the poet's comic genius. On the top is placed a monkey viewing himself in in a mirror, with this inscription :

Vitæ imitatio,  
Consuetudinis speculum,  
Comœdia.

That is, Comedy is the imitation of life, and the mirror of fashion."

The Poet's effigy lies in a careless posture on the one side, and on the other is placed this epitaph :

Ingenio  
Acri, faceto, expolito,  
Moribusque  
Urbanis, candidis, facillimis,  
**GULIELMI CONGREVE**  
Hoc  
Qualecunque desiderii sui  
Solamen simul et  
Monumentum  
Posuit COBHAM. 1736.

That is, " To the piercing, facetious, and refined genius; to the polished candid and unaffected manners of WILLIAM CONGREVE: COBHAM has erected this poor consolation and monument of his loss."

Having thus finished our account of these delightful Gardens, we must cross to the eastern side of the county, and enter it in the road from St. Alban's, at

Fenny Stratford, forty-five miles from London. It is situated on the ancient Roman way, called Watling

ling-street, and had a charter granted it by King James I. in 1609, for a market on Mondays. Seven miles from this place, is

*Stony Stratford.* This town likewise stands on the above Roman causeway, and takes its name from the stony ford that led over the river here. The town is a great thoroughfare in the Chester road, and has a stone bridge over the river Ouse. It is large, and the houses chiefly built of stone, as are the two churches, St. Giles's on the south-west side, and St. Mary's on the north-east. Here King Edward I. erected one of the crosses in memory of his Queen Eleanor, adorned with the arms of England, Castile and Leon. The chief manufacture in this town and its neighbourhood is bone-lace.

On the 6th of May, in the year 1742, a dreadful fire happened at this town, which raged with great fury for some time, and burnt down an hundred and fifty houses. Higher up is,

*Newport Pagnel*, an hundred and fifty-two miles and an half from London. It took its name from *Fulk Paganel*, or *Pagnel*, one of the ancient lords of this town. It is a tolerable large, well built, populous town, standing on the river Ouse, over which it has two large stone bridges. A good trade is carried on here in bone-lace, of which it is thought more is made here, and in the neighbouring villages, than in any other place in England. It is neither a borough nor corporation, though bigger than many that are so. At

*Oulney*, is another considerable manufacture for bone-lace. It is a pretty good town, lying on the northern extremity of the county, about fifty-eight miles and an half from London. The river Ouse runs on the east side of it.



High Street, and had a charter granted by King James I. in 1606, for a market on Mondays. It is a town of some 2000 inhabitants, and is situated on the river Chiltern, and has a stone bridge over the river. It is a large town, and the houses chiefly built of stone, and are the two churches, St. Giles's on the north-west side, and St. Mary's on the south-east. It is a very ancient town, and one of the crosses in the town is of the 12th century. It is a very ancient town, and one of the crosses in the town is of the 12th century. It is a very ancient town, and one of the crosses in the town is of the 12th century. It is a very ancient town, and one of the crosses in the town is of the 12th century.

On the 10th day, in the year 1794, a great fire happened at this town, which lasted with great fury for some time, and burnt down an hundred and fifty houses. It is a very ancient town, and one of the crosses in the town is of the 12th century. It is a very ancient town, and one of the crosses in the town is of the 12th century. It is a very ancient town, and one of the crosses in the town is of the 12th century. It is a very ancient town, and one of the crosses in the town is of the 12th century.

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## NORFOLK CIRCUIT.

### BEDFORDSHIRE.

**I**S bounded on the south and south-east by Hertfordshire; on the north and north-east by Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire; on the north-west by Northamptonshire; and on the west by Buckinghamshire. It is of an oval form, twenty-two miles long, not fifteen broad, nor above seventy-three in compass, wherein are contained nine hundreds, ten market towns, an hundred and twenty-four parishes, two hundred and sixty thousand acres, or, according to Mr. *Templeman's* calculation, three hundred and twenty-three square miles, and about twelve thousand one hundred and seventy houses; all in the diocese of Lincoln.

The air is mild and healthy, the soil a deep clay, and fruitful both in tillage and pasturage in the north parts, but sandy in the middle, especially from Woburn to Potton, with a ridge of hills, clothed with woods. Its chief rivers are the Ouse and the Ivel. After the former has entered the county between Bradfield and Bucks, there is scarce any river in England that has so many meanders, for in its passage from St. Neot's in Huntingdonshire, it runs above thirty miles in eighteen by land.

The

The navigation of it is of vast service to the corn trade, of which great quantities of it are sent down to Lynn, where it is shipped for Holland. This river divides the county in two parts. The northern is the less, and the most woody; but the southern has spacious fields, yielding plentiful crops of plump, white and strong barley, which made into malt is frequently sold in London, and in other parts for that of Hartfordshire. It has forests and parks well stored with deer, fat pastures with cattle; fullers earth, woad for dying, cheese, and great plenty of poultry. Its chief manufactures are bone-lace and straw-hats. The county is well inhabited, and great numbers of gentry reside in it; but this is observed to be one of the seven counties that all lie together without one city among them, viz. Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Hartfordshire, Essex and Suffolk. It sends four members to parliament, viz. two knights of the shire, and two burgesses for the town of Bedford, from whence the county has its name.

The road from London to Bedford passes through St. Alban's, and enters this county at

*Luton*, a pretty little town, thirty-two miles from London. It is pleasantly situated between hills, and has a large market-house, and noted for its manufacture of straw-hats. Near it, on the edge of Hartfordshire, is

*Looton Hoo*, the seat of the Earl of Bute. The house, which has been rebuilt on a more extensive plan, is pleasantly situated in a noble and extensive park; as you enter this park through the lodge, you pass along the banks of a river, which was formerly but a trifling stream, but now a most beautiful piece of water. The plantation on the top of the hills to the right, has a beautiful effect,

as

as has the winding hollow, on the left, agreeably diversified, scattered with beautiful trees. At the end of the lake is a large island, well planted with trees. The different views of the water are extremely pleasing, across one part of it is a wooden bridge, light, and unornamented; and there floats on the river two boats, and a sloop with sails and flying colours. A short distance from the bridge is the cascade, which greatly adds to the beauty of the scene.

Returning from the water, by a different road, which leads through a pleasing valley, you have a view of a monumental pillar in the Tuscan order, on the top is an urn, and on a square pedestal, which supports the column, is the following inscription: "In memory of Mr. FRANCIS NAPIER." This pillar, though plain and unornamented, has a beautiful simplicity which pleases.

At *Pollox-hill*, near *Silsoe*, nine miles from Luton in the road to Bedford, a gold mine was discovered some years ago, which was claimed and seized for the King, by the society for royal mines. But the refiners who were employed to extract the gold from the ore, did not go on with the work, the gold not always answering the charge of separation.

Not far from *Pollox-hill* lies *Wrest*, the seat of the noble house of Grey, late Dukes of Kent, at which is an hermitage, on which are inscribed the following beautiful and moral lines, written by a guest of the noble owner:

Stranger, or guest, whom e'er this hallow'd grove  
Shall chance receive, where sweet contentment  
dwells;

Bring here no heart that with ambition swells,  
With a'rice pines, or burns with lawless love.

U

Vice



Vice tainted souls will all in vain remove  
 To Sylvan shades, and hermits peaceful cells,  
 In vain will seek retirement's lenient spells,  
 Or hope that bliss, which only good men prove.

If heav'n born truth, and sacred virtue's lore,  
 Which cheer, adorn, and dignify the mind,  
 Are constant inmates of thy honest breast?  
 If unrepining at thy neighbour's store  
 Thou count'st as thine, the good of all mankind,  
 Then welcome share the friendly groves of Wrest.

*Bedford*, fifty-one miles and an half from London, is the county town, where the assizes were always held, except in 1684, when they were removed to Ampthil. This town is large, populous and well built, pleasantly situated on the river Ouse, over which it has a stone bridge, of which hereafter.

This place was famous for a victory gained in the year 572, over the Britons, by Cuthwulf, the Saxon King, and for being the place of burial of King Offa, who chose to have his bones laid in a small chapel near the river Ouse, which happening to overflow, carried them quite away. It was once destroyed by the Danes, but Edward the Elder repaired it. After the Conquest, Pagan de Beauchamp, the third Baron of Bedford, built a castle here, encompassed with a mighty rampier of earth, and a high wall; the whole so strong, that King Stephen, who besieged and took it, in his war with the Empress Maud, was glad to grant the garrison honourable terms.

This castle, King John took from William de Beauchamp, and bestowed it on Falco de Brent, or Breant, raised by his favour, from a private soldier to great riches and power, but his conduct not meeting with his approbation, he took it from him,  
 and

and hanged the governor, the brother of Falco, and other knights and soldiers, and demolished the castle, though it was not quite level till the reign of Henry VIII. The site and dwelling-house he returned to William de Beauchamp. Falco was shortly after banished.

The corporation of this town is very ancient, and it has sent members to parliament regularly, from the earliest times to the present. It is governed by a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, &c. There are five churches here, viz. three on the north side, and two on the south side of the river. The chief of them, and indeed the principal ornament of the town, is St. Paul's, which before the conquest had a college of prebends; but it was changed into a priory of canons regular. Here is a great corn-market; and vast quantities of the best wheat grow in the neighbourhood of it.

The bridge (before spoken of) runs through, and almost equally divides the town. History is silent, both as to the founder and time of its construction. Tradition says, it was erected with part of the materials of the castle, demolished by King Henry the Third, in the year 1224. It is highly probable this was built in the place of a much older bridge; as by an extract from Roger Hovedon's Chronicle, in Leland's Collectanea, it appears, that the part of the town, on the southern bank of the river, was built by Edward the Elder, in the year 912. It seems, therefore, almost impossible that the inhabitants could so long have wanted this necessary means of communication between the north and south parts of the town.

This bridge is one hundred and sixteen yards in length, four and an half broad, and has a parapet three feet and an half high; this, it is said, was erected in the reign of Queen Mary, out of the ruins

ruins of St. Dunstan's church, which stood on the south side of the bridge. It has seven arches, and near the centre, were two gate-houses; that on the north being used for a prison; and that on the south served as a store-house for the arms and ammunition of the troops quartered there. These gate-houses were taken down in the year 1765; and six lamps set up on posts at proper distances. The bridge is kept in repair by the corporation, who have a very considerable estate.\*

Beyond the bridge is a free-school, founded in Queen Elizabeth's time, by a native of the town, Sir William Harpur, Lord Mayor of London; and an hospital for eight poor people, founded by Thomas Christy, Esq. formerly a member. Here is also a charity-school for forty children, and its poor have such an estate to prevent them from starving, as no town or city in England enjoys, for the whole of Bedford-row, and some streets adjoining, belong to the poor, and now produce a great annual sum. The field on which these buildings stand, was yearly farmed for fifty pounds, at the time it was bequeathed to the poor of Bedford.

Mr. John Bunyan, the author of the famous *Pilgrim's Progress*, was born here. He was neither a learned nor elegant writer, but a voluminous one. The above fable did him the greatest honour of all his works. He was apprenticed to a brazier, or rather tinker, and after he had been some years an itinerant one, during which he read much, he left off his trade and turned preacher, and being thrown into jail here, in the persecuting times, preached at the prison windows to the people in the streets, to whose capacities his sermons were so adapted, that he never failed of a crowded audience.

\* Grosse.

The

The bye-road from Bedford to Northill, is very broad and high, and free from ruts; this amendment of the road was greatly assisted by — Howard, Esq. of Carrington, who not only made a fine causeway through the village, but himself expended above fifty pounds in making one bad piece a good road.

*Carrington* is a very neat village, well built and lively; most of the cottages and houses new; all of them tiled, and many of brick, which, with white pales, and little plantations have a most pleasing effect.

Mr. *Young* mentions a very great piece of curiosity at Northill; he says, "he would advise any travellers, who pass through the county of Bedford, to take Northill in their route, were it only for the satisfaction of viewing two small pieces of painted glass, done by J. Oliver in 1660, belonging to the Rector, the Rev. Mr. Maxey. They are very small, but each has a fly, so exquisitely painted as to exceed the power even of imagination to conceive; the wings are coloured on one side, and the bodies on the other of the glass, and are touched in so lively and spirited a manner, (especially one, which is superior to the other, that without fruit) that it is difficult to believe them but painting, and not life itself; the light appears through the body at the pinching with the tail in the most inimitable manner, and the roundness of the fly, with the bigness of its claws, are represented in the boldest and fullest relief. In a word, it is truly admirable. In the chancel of the church is a very fine painted window, in good preservation, by the same master."

A little north of Sandy is *Tempsford*, a village noted for a camp, in which the Danes took up their winter quarters when they ruined the strong fort of Sandy, about four miles southward. This  
fort



fort is said to have been built by the Romans, and the very *Salinæ* of Ptolemy. A great many urns and Roman coins have been formerly dug up in the grounds adjoining, now occupied by gardeners. Mr. *Aubrey* mentions glass urns, and one red, like coral, with bones in them; and says, that some of the coins dug up in 1670, were given to the University of Oxford, by Mr. Christy, of Bedford.

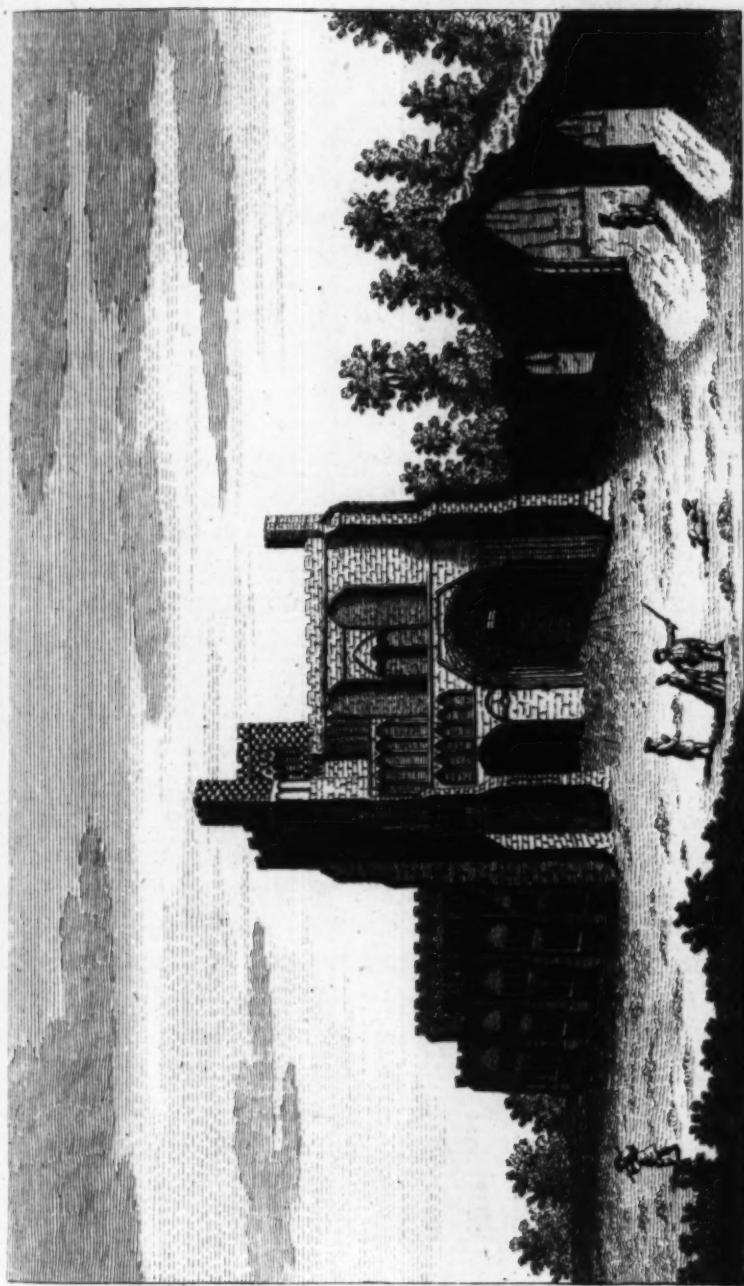
*Elstow*, or *Helenstow*, a little below Bedford, had formerly a nunnery, erected in the reign of William the Conqueror, and dedicated to the honour of the Virgin Mary, and St. Helen, the mother of Constantine the Great.

At *King's Cross*, in the midway betwixt Bedford Castle and Newenham, many bones of men have been dug up, supposed to be the remains of such as were slain before the castle in the wars of the barons.

The road from London to Coventry, passes thro' St. Alban's, and enters this county at

*Dunstable*, or *Dunstable*, thirty-four miles from London. It is a populous town, seated on a chalky hill, at the entrance of that long ridge of hills called the Chiltern. Not far from this town Roman coins have been dug up, which the country people call *Madning Money*; and on the descent of Chiltern-hills, is a large round area of nine acres, surrounded with a deep ditch and ramparts, which the inhabitants call *Maid-in-Bour*.

This town was burnt by the Danes, and rebuilt by King Henry I. to suppress a gang of robbers which infested these parts. That King also erected a priory here, the ruins of which are still to be seen; the gateway is almost perfect, and shews us the remains of ecclesiastic magnificence. *Camden* says, it took its name from one *Dunning*, the chief of these thieves; but others, with greater propriety, derive it from the Saxon word *Dun*, or the British or Gaulish, *Dunum*, which answers to its hilly or mountainous



*Dunstable Priory Bedfordshire.*



mountainous situation. King Henry I. made it a royal borough, but it never sent members to parliament, though it had once a summons in the reign of Edward II. In the middle of the town stood one of the crosses erected by Edward I. which was demolished by the parliament soldiers. At this town several of the Lollards were martyred, and here Queen Catherine had the sentence of divorce passed against her by Archbishop Cranmer.

The town consists of four streets, answering to the four quarters of the world, and its situation being high, they have no running water here; the inhabitants have dug for springs, to the depth of twenty-four fathoms, but could not meet with any; to supply this defect, they have several ponds to receive the rain water, which are never dry. Here are a number of good inns, and good accommodations. The church was formerly part of a priory, and is composed of many pieces tacked together.

*Kingbury*, once a royal seat is now a farm-house, over against the church. Larks greatly abound in this neighbourhood, esteemed the largest and best in England.

The persecution of the Lollards was so great here, that Stokely, Bishop of London, boasted that he had burnt fifty protestants, and Dr. Smith, Bishop of Lincoln, ordered William Tillsworth to be burnt for denying the Pope's supremacy, with this remarkable circumstance of cruelty, that his only daughter was compelled to set fire to the fagots.

The gentlemen of Bedford, a few years ago, came to a laudable resolution of sloping the chalk-hill near this town, for the benefit of the road, which, in a frost, or after a shower of rain, used to be so slippery, that neither man nor horse could keep their feet, which often occasioned great damage



age to both ; to prevent which, for the future, they employed a great number of hands to lower it.

*Tuddington*, five miles north of Dunstable, is a small market town, but has three annual fairs. Here was a magnificent seat built by Paulinus Pever, (a courtier in the reign of Henry III.) who added orchards and parks to it. A fine seat was also built here by Sir Henry Cheney in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, who afterwards created him Lord Cheney, of Tuddington. Sir Henry Johnson had a seat here, afterwards the Earl of Strafford's.

A little farther on from Dunstable is Hockliffe, where the road branches off to

*Woburn*, forty two miles from London, is noted for the great quantities of fullers earth dug in its neighbourhood. A terrible fire happened here on June 1724, which burnt above an hundred houses, they have since been rebuilt, and a fine market-place erected, entirely at the expence of the Duke of Bedford ; so that the town makes no contemptible appearance. There is a free-school founded by Francis Earl of Bedford, and a charity-school for thirty boys, founded and endowed by Wrothesley, late Duke of Bedford, and his Duchesses. The town almost all belongs to the Duke of Bedford. The town is famous for jockey caps. But what it is chiefly famed for, is

*Woburn Abbey*, the seat of the Duke of Bedford, where formerly stood the abbey founded in 1145, which was granted to John Ruffel, at the dissolution by Henry VIII. " This seat is in every respect worthy the view of the curious traveller. The house forms a large quadrangle, with a handsome court in the centre ; the front to the bason is the best. Behind are two large quadrangles of offices, distinct from the house, which are very beautiful, plain, and simple, but extremely proper for the destination ; they are built, like the house,

house of white stone; in the centre of their principal front is a small dome rising over a porticoed centre, supported by Tuscan pillars, which have a very good effect. Upon the whole, these detached offices appear in a more judicious state, than any I remember to have seen.

"In the house, you enter first the hall, which, though not a well-proportioned or elegant room, is handsome. It is forty by thirty-seven and fifteen high, the cieling supported by eight pillars. The chimnies bass relieves in white stone.

"The green drawing-room is twenty-two by thirty-five, between the windows are fine glasses, and two very noble slabs of Egyptian marble. The chimney-piece is of white marble polished. Here are three large pictures; the plague of Egypt, dark; David and Abigail, ditto; as are the colouring and general expression. Two large landscapes, fine.

"The decker-worked room, twenty-five by twenty; nothing can be more pleasing than this bed of decker-work, lined with green silk; the work is exquisite, and the representation of the birds and beasts in it admirable. The chimney-piece very elegant; the scroll of polished white marble in a light taste.

"The dining-room thirty-five by twenty-two, a very noble room; the chimney-piece a festoon of flowers carved in white marble, and finely polished. In this room are four large pictures of the battles of Alexander. The repast is not a disagreeable one, were the heroes grouped with more taste, but they sit at as square a table as any Dutch painter could ever have designed. The opposite piece to it is the best; the groupe of three horsemen, with a large rock in the back ground, is fine; the fire and spirit of the horses well done.

" In the yellow drawing-room are two portraits by Reynolds, one of the late Marquis of Tavistock ; the other the present Duchess of Marlborough ; the latter a very fine one. The chimney-piece is elegant, and the pier glass frame finely carved, of plated silver : here is also a portrait of the present Duke of Bedford.

" The coffee-room, thirty by twenty ; in this room remember to observe a small portrait of Francis Earl of Bedford, which is exceedingly fine ; the face and hands admirably painted.

" The grotto is pretty of its kind ; the rustics are well cut, but the figures of bas-reliefs in shells are strangely incongruous with the idea of a grot. The china jars noble.

" The billiard room is hung with very fine tapestry, designed from Raphael's cartoons.

" The duchess's dressing-room, hung with embossed work on white paper, which has a very pleasing effect : the chimney-piece a carved scroll in wood, the marble black, and veined : the pier glass large, and the frame elegant ; over the chimney, Lady Offory, by Hudson. The chairs and sofas painted taffeta.

" The French bed-chamber twenty-six by twenty-two ; the bed and hangings a very rich balmozeen. The chimney-piece light and beautiful ; the cornice, festoons of gilt carving on a white ground ; and the cieling the same on a lead ground : the pier-glass and frame, and the frame of the landscape over the chimney pleasing.

" The dressing-room of the same dimensions, is likewise hung with the same silk, the cieling and cornice richly ornamented with scrolls of gilding on a white ground : the chimney-piece all of white marble polished, but not light. The doors, door-cases

cases and window-shutters, &c. all ornamented like the cieling, &c. in white and gold. In this room, remember to observe four very large blue and white china jars; the two by the windows are prodigiously fine.

"The state bed-chamber is most magnificently furnished. It is thirty by twenty-two, the bed and hangings of very rich blue damask; the cieling ornamented in compartments of rich gilding on a white ground. The chimney-piece of marble polished, and the carved and gilt ornaments around the landscape over it in a beautiful taste: the toilette is all of very handsome Dresden work, the glass frame, and boxes of gold. An India cabinet on each side of gold japan, with coloured china jars, exquisitely fine.

"The dressing-room twenty-one by twenty, hung with green damask; the chimney-piece very handsome; the pier-glass fine.

"The drawing-room exceedingly elegant, thirty-three by twenty-two; the cieling a mosaic pattern of rich carving on a white ground; the cornice of the chimney-piece supported by double pillars of very fine Siena marble. The pier glasses very large, and in one plate; under them noble slabs of Siena. In this room are several excellent paintings; particularly a landscape by Claude Loraine, representing a ship partly appearing from behind a building; amazingly beautiful, the diffusion of light, and the general brilliancy and harmony of the whole, admirable.

A holy family; very fine, the turn of the boy's head inimitable.

Virgin and child; the hair of the Virgin's head, and her attitude most sweetly elegant and expressive.

A Magdalen; fine.

The



The inside of a church; the minute expression of the architecture, and the rays of light, well done,

A rock, with the broken branches of trees hanging from its clefts; (I apprehend by Salvator) the expression very noble: the romantic wildness of the scene, most excellently caught.

A holy family; the child standing in the cradle; very pleasing.

Joseph interpreting the dreams of Pharaoh, by Rembrandt; most admirable; in a greater style than common with this master.

Rambrandt, by himself; inimitable.

Her Grace presenting Carolina to Minerva, by Hamilton; a very large picture, and some of the figures not inelegantly done.

"The saloon, thirty-five by twenty-two, and of a good height; it is most magnificently fitted up, and elegantly furnished; the ceiling of gilt carving on white; the door-case carved and gilt, the cornices supported by Corinthian pillars in a light and pleasing style; the chimney-piece of white marble, beautifully polished; in the centre hangs a magnificent gilt lustre. Remember to observe the picture, representing the last supper; it is fine. The drawing in a free and bold style.

A piece of angels; fine.

Dining-room, forty by twenty-two; the ceiling white and gold; chimney-piece pleasing; over it a landscape, a waterfall, which has merit.

Second drawing-room, twenty square; this, like the rest, is well fitted up; and among other pictures, contains

Two landscapes, morning and evening; by Morat; capital.

Lyons, by Rubens; fine.

Two battles, like Borgognone.

The

"The picture gallery, in three divisions, an hundred by sixteen, ornamented by a vast number of excellent portraits of the Russel family: among others, remark that of the Countess of Somerset, the face and hands very finely done; also William Earl of Bedford and Lady Catherine Brook, excellent. The ornaments of this room are all carving painted white: there are four statues, among them a Venus of Medicis, but not pleasing; and a Venus plucking the thorn out of her foot, but with none of that expression of pain in her countenance, which is so fine in the antique at Wilton.

"*Wooburn Park* is ten miles round, and contains variety of hill and dale, with woods of noble oaks; we drove from the house through them towards the south, and looked up the great glade, which is cut through the park for several miles, and catches at the end of it a Chinese temple; then winding through the woods, we came to the duchess's shrubbery, containing sixteen acres of land, beautifully laid out in the modern taste, with many most glorious oaks in it. From thence we advanced to the hill at the north end, from which is a vast prospect into Buckinghamshire, Hartfordshire, and Bedfordshire; turning down the hill to the left, the riding leads to the evergreen plantation of above two hundred acres of land, which thirty years ago was a barren rabbit warren, but now a close winter's ride, on a dry soil, with all sorts of evergreens of a growth. About the middle on the left hand, is an handsome temple, retired and pleasing: at the end of this plantation, we came to the lower water, which is about ten acres, and in the centre, an island with a very elegant and light Chinese temple, large enough for thirty people to dine in; and in the adjoining wood is a kitchen, &c. for making ready the repasts his grace takes in the temple. In the front of the  
ouse

house is a large basin of water, with several handsome boats; formerly a large yacht swam in it, but rotting, it has not been rebuilt.

"This park, which is one of the largest in the kingdom, contains three thousand five hundred acres of a great variety of soils, from a light sand to a rich loam, which yields grass good enough to fat large beasts: it is all walled in; was there a greater variety of water, it would be much more beautiful, but the nature of the soil in the low parts makes that acquisition very difficult; but what might be much easier gained, are buildings scattered about it, which would give a pleasing variety to the ridings, and for want of which most of them are very melancholy."

Another road, which branches off from Dunstable, leads to

*Amptbill*, forty-six miles from London. It is a pretty market town, pleasantly situate between two hills. In the reign of King Henry VI. a large house was built in a spacious park at the east end of it, by Sir John Cornwall, whom he created Baron Fancrop, out of the spoils taken in France. It was purchased by the late Duke of Bedford, of the late Earl of Ailesbury. Queen Catherine retired here after having been forbid the court upon her divorce.

Mr. Stone, late principal of New Inn, founded and endowed a school here for teaching thirteen poor children, and an hospital with good allowance for ten poor men.

Adjoining to *Amptbill* is *Houghton Park* and *Houghton Conquest*, so called from the ancient family of the Conquetts. Here is a free-school of good reputation, in the gift of Sidney Sussex College, in Cambridge. Near this place are two common fields, called Great and Little Danes fields, remarkable

remarkable for several large pits of fifteen feet diameter.

At *Wood End*, Sir Samuel Luke had a seat; he was a commander in Oliver Cromwell's army, and is thought by some to be the Hudibras of Butler.

*Biggleswade*, forty-five miles and three quarters from London, is pleasantly situated on the river Ivel. *Camden* speaks of it as a noted place in his time for its horse fair and stone bridge. It is a great thoroughfare in the northern road, and well furnished with inns and good accommodations. It is one of the greatest markets in England for barley.

We shall close our description of this county, with an account of the woad for which it is very famous. This plant is cultivated here in the following manner. It is sown every year, and the old woad, except what they save for seed, is plucked up. The beginning of March is the season for sowing it, and the middle of May for cropping it. It is best in a dry year, but more plentiful in a wet one. It is cropped commonly four or five times a year, as it comes up; but the first crop is best, and every one after it gradually worse. When gathered, it is immediately ground small in a mill, till it becomes fit for ball; and when in balls it is laid upon hurdles to dry; and then ground into powder. After this it is spread upon a floor and watered, which is called *Couching*, and then it is turned every day till it is perfectly dry, which is called *Silvering*. After silvering it is weighed and put into a bag, containing two hundred weight, and then sent to the dyer to try it, who sets a price on it according to its goodness. This is the plant with which the ancient Britons used to dye their bodies, that they might appear the more terrible to their enemies, but rather, as some think, to preserve them from the inclemency of the weather.





## NORFOLK CIRCUIT.

### HUNTINGDONSHIRE,

**I**S bounded on the west and north by Northamptonshire; on the south by Bedfordshire; on the east by Cambridgeshire, from which last it is in a great measure divided by the Ouse. It is not above twenty-five miles in length, nor twenty in breadth, or above seventy in circumference; and its area, according to *Templeman*, measures but three hundred and six square miles.

The Saxons called the shire town *Hunters Down*, and the county seems to take its name from the conveniency of hunting, if we may judge from the condition of it heretofore, when it was in a manner one entire forest, till deforested by the Kings Henry II. and III. and Edward I. the latter of whom left no more of its forest than what was in his own ground. There are so many meers and fens, besides rivers, in the low land, that the air cannot be expected to be wholesome, nor pleasant, in general; for the fogs and vapours that rise from them are not so noisome and unwholesome as those of the stagnated salt-water in Essex, Kent, Sussex, &c. yet they are always damp, and often obnoxious, especially to strangers, though most of  
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the inhabitants are healthy, and many of them long-lived. The worst parts for a stranger to visit are those low moorish tracts chiefly about Huntingdon, Godmanchester, Ramsey and Yaxley; for in the other parts about Kimbolton, and indeed at Leighton-stone-hundred, the air is doubtless good. It is a great corn country; and though the hilly parts do not produce so much as the others, yet the goodness of the air, and the pasture they afford for sheep, make amends. The meadows and pastures too, abound most however in the low lands, which have great store of milch kine and other cattle, with plenty of water fowl, and fish in their meers, of which the inhabitants make great profit; but their chief fuel is turf.

Its principal rivers are the Nen and the Ouse. The Nen after it has passed Oundle in Northamptonshire, winds round the north-west and north bounds of the county, and runs through Wittlesey and other meers. The Ouse enters this county from Bedfordshire, at St. Neot's, and running north-east passes Huntingdon, and leaves the county at Erith for Cambridgeshire. The waters of the meers are often violently disturbed in the calmest weather, to the great terror and danger of the fishermen, which is ascribed to eruptions of subterraneous winds. In some parts of this county are medicinal waters; and from its abundance of Willows it has been called *Willowshire*.

Mr. Speed mentions an observation of Sir Robert Cotton, that the families of this county are so worn out, that though it was formerly very rich in gentry, yet few surnames of any note are now remaining, that can be traced higher than Henry VIII. The cause of this is uncertain, unless we should impute it to the great parcels of abbey lands that were in this shire, which upon the dissolution fell into lay hands, and perhaps would no more stick  
by

by them here, than they have done by their owners elsewhere. There is something very singular in the government of this county : for as Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely are under the same administration with it, the sheriff is chosen out of these several places in turn. The author of *Magna Britannia* says, that in the civil wars there was more action in this than in some much larger counties, because it was the native country of Oliver Cromwell. It is in the diocese of Lincoln ; the ecclesiastical government is managed by the archdeacon of Huntingdon, and it is divided into five deaneries. It sends only four members to parliament, namely, two for the shire, and two for the county town.

Joining the road to Stilton, by Ware, which we left last at Royston, we enter this county at the south-east ; the first town of any note that we meet with, is

*Godmanchester*, fifty-six miles and an half from London. This was anciently called *Gormanchester*, situate on the south side of the house, opposite Huntingdon ; and though no market town, it is reckoned the biggest village in England, and so remarkable for husbandry, that no town employs so many ploughs. Mr. *Camden* says, that no people in the nation have more advanced it, either by their purse or their genius. When King James I. came through it from Scotland, the inhabitants met him with seventy new ones, drawn by as many teams of horses ; for they hold their lands by this tenure, so that whenever our Kings take this way in their progress, the farmers here make the most pompous appearance, with their ploughs and horses, adorned like triumphal cars, though not with military, yet with rustic trophies. We are told, that upon some such occasions, there has been a train of no less than nine score ploughs. King James I. was so pleased with



with the figure they made to do him that honour, that he incorporated them by the name of two bailiffs, eighteen assistants, and the commonalty of the borough of Godmanchester. The inhabitants had generally the reputation of men of strength and substance: their church is a vicarage belonging to Westminster Abbey. Here is a free school, called the free grammar school of Queen Elizabeth.

*Henry Huntingdon* speaks of this having been formerly a noble city, which assertion is confirmed by *Mr. Camden*, for omitting the Roman coins frequently ploughed up, and the distances in the Itinerary, together with the bones of divers men of far greater stature than is credible, the very name implies it to be the same city that Antoninus calls *Duraliponte*, by mistake only of one letter for *Durosiponte*, which signifies in British, a bridge over the Ouse. It took its present name from Gorman, the Dane, who had these parts granted him by the peace with King Alfred.

Between Godmanchester and Huntingdon, is a wooden bridge erected over a rivulet, upon principles of gratitude and public charity; with this inscription;

ROBERTUS COOK, emergens aquis, hoc viatoribus  
Sacrum D. D. 1636.

That is,

ROBERT COOK having escaped the danger of drowning, consecrated this for the use of travellers,  
1636.

Crossing the river Ouse, we come to

*Huntingdon*, fifty-seven miles and an half from London. It is the county town, situate on a gentle eminence on the north side of the Ouse. It was formerly in so flourishing a condition as to contain fifteen parish churches, which were reduced in *Mr.*

*Camden's*

*Camden's* time to four, and by the civil wars to two. The cause of this decay seems to have been an alteration made in the river by one Gray, who, as *Speed* tells us, maliciously obstructed its navigation to the town, which before had been enriched by it; it has since, however, been made navigable as high as Bedford. The Empress Maud founded an abbey here; and a little before, or at the time of the conquest, a castle was built near the bridge, which was enlarged by David King of the Scots, to whom the borough was granted by King Stephen; but King Henry II. demolished it, to put an end to the quarrels that arose from the competition for this Earldom, between the Scottish Kings and the family of St. Liz. King John granted it by charter a peculiar coroner, profit by toll and custom, a recorder, town-clerk, and two bailiffs, but at present it is incorporated by the name of a mayor, twelve aldermen, and burgeses. The assizes are held here, and the town consists of one long continued street, and well built, especially from the ground plat, where the castle formerly stood.

This town is famous for having given birth to Oliver Cromwell, who was born in St. John's parish, the 25th of April, in the year 1599. The house has been rebuilt, but the room in which he was born is preserved in its first state.

The market-place, and the free-stone bridge, or bridges rather, and causeway, over the Ouse, are a great ornament, as well as benefit to the town. Here is a good public school. Huntingdon returns two members to parliament.

The meadows along the banks of the river Ouse are extremely beautiful, and not to be surpassed in England, either for pleasantness, or for the numerous herds of cattle and flocks of sheep which are continually feeding thereon.

Keeping

Keeping the northern road from Huntingdon, we come to *Soutery-Lane*, a deep descent between the hills, in which is *Stangate-Hole*, the most notorious place for robbing in all this county. And about half a mile out of the road at *Connington*, was the seat of Sir Robert Cotton, the learned friend of the great Camden, where he had a choice collection of Roman inscriptions from all parts of the kingdom. The house was built in a magnificent manner of hewn stone, but now lies in dismal ruins. By it is a beautiful church, with a tower; and in the window is some fine painted glass. Sir Robert Cotton, in digging a pond in the hill near this spot, found the skeleton of a fish, twenty feet long. From this hill the eye commands the whole level of the fens, particularly *Wittlesey-meer*, where the gentry have little vessels to sail in for pleasure. About five miles farther on is

*Stilton*, or *Stichilton*, seventy miles from London. It stands upon the old Roman way, leading from *Castor* before mentioned; and in an old Saxon charter it is called *Ermine-street*. This street runs here through the middle of a square fort, defended by walls on the north side, and with ramparts of earth on the other, near which have been dug up stone coffins.

This place is now chiefly noted for its famous cheese, called the English *Pamellan*, which is sometimes brought to table so full of mites and maggots, that they use a spoon to eat them.

From *Stilton*, the road turns north-east through *Yaxley*, a neat little town, in the direct road to *Peterborough*: it is situate among the fens, of which there is one of its own name, lying upon *Wittlesey-meer*. The houses are pretty well built, and the church has a lofty spire.

A little to the east of *Yaxley*, is

*Wittlesey.*

*Wittlesey-meer.* It is six miles long and three broad, the water clear, yet like the rest, is subject to violent shakes of the weather. King Canute in passing it with his family, had like to have been lost. The air about it is thick, foggy and stinking, but its abundance of fish, with the pastures and turf in the neighbourhood, makes it ample amends; and though the air is fatal to strangers, it is favourable enough to the natives who are used to it.

From Huntingdon another road branches off to *Ramsay*, sixty-eight miles from London. It is every where encompassed with fens, except on the west side, where it is separated from the *Terra-Fuina* by a causey, for two miles surrounded with alders, reeds and bulrushes, that in the spring make a beautiful show, to which, its gardens, corn-fields and rich pasture, are no small addition. There is a causey, called *King's Delf*, raised and paved at a great expence, which runs ten miles from this place to Peterborough: some think it was made by the Danish King Canute; but the author of the *Addenda to Camden* observes, that the name appears upon record in Edgar's reign, before that King's time, and he supposes it to have been only the mark of some ditch made here at first for the draining of the fens. In the year 1721, a great quantity of Roman coins was found here, supposed to have been hid here by the monks on some incursion of the Danes.

This place was formerly famous for its rich abbey, dedicated to St. Dunstan, whose abbots were mitred, and sat in parliament. It was then proverbially called *Ramsay the rich*; but after the dissolution of the abbey, it might have been truly called *Ramsay the poor*; for the market was lost many years, though it recovered it again about  
eighty



eighty years ago, and it is now one of the best and cheapest markets in England for fat cattle and water fowl.

On the 21st of May 1731, a fire happened here, which consumed an hundred houses; little of the abbey is left besides a part of the old gatehouse, and a neglected statue of its founder Alwyn, who was called *Alderman of England*, and cousin to King Edgar. The keys and ragged staff in his hand denote his office, this is reckoned one of the most ancient pieces of English sculpture that is extant.

South of Ramsey Isle is *Warbois*, noted for its witches, who have formerly made so much noise, that we shall just mention the fatal end of a man, his wife, his wife, and daughter, who were all three hanged for torturing the children of a gentleman in that parish: the history of it is kept in Queen's-college library in Cambridge; and one of their fellows preaches yearly at Huntingdon on that occasion. The children being sick, their urine was sent to Master Dr. Dorrington at Cambridge, who sent a medicine against worms. That prevailing nothing, the doctor, upon second thoughts, pronounced the symptoms were from witchcraft. It was not long before a proper family was suspected: the woman and her daughter were frequently sent for, and kept with the children, and the disease remitted upon the sight of them; but chiefly upon a confession, and a sort of petition added to it. To this effect was the girl's: "As I am a witch, and a greater witch than my mother, so I desire that the pains shall go off from this child." These confessions were the chief point against the prisoners, which they had been prevailed upon to repeat to the standers-by, who had observed the children relieved upon it, as they imagined. And thus three  
unhappy

## HUNTINGDONSHIRE. 177

unhappy persons were sacrificed to ignorance and superstition.

On the west side of Huntingdon is *Hincbingroke House*, the noble and ancient seat of the Earl of Sandwich; the gardens are exceedingly beautiful, but the situation is greatly hurt by the adjacent town of Huntingdon, which partly eclipses the prospect on that side. It commands an open view of the plain lower part of the country.

*St. Neot's*, or *Needs*, is a large well built town, fifty-eight miles from London, the road to which branches off from the great northern road at Eaton in Bedfordshire. It takes its name from a monastery dedicated to St. Néot, which was burnt by the Danes. Here is a strong and handsome church, with a fine steeple, which does honour to the architect. The inside is ornamented with a handsome organ, &c. Here is also a good stone bridge over the river Ouse, by which river coals are brought to the town, and sold through the country. It has a charity-school, which was opened in 1711, for twenty-five poor charity children.

At *Hailweston* in this neighbourhood, are two springs, one brackish, recommended for cutaneous disorders; the other fresh, for dimness of sight.

Those who delight in natural landscapes, may have an opportunity of seeing a very beautiful one, near the river at this town. The river winds at your feet; at one end is the bridge, through the centre arch of which houses are seen in a pleasing manner; on the other side the stream is lost among the woods; in the front are several very fine meadows, the scene sufficiently varied with high trees, among which a farm-house peeps to your view, in a picturesque manner: on the right, the houses of the town intermixed with trees, and the steeple spiring above all, have a most pleasing effect.

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From

From Eaton, another branch of the road brings you to

*Kimbolton*, sixty-nine miles from London. This was the *Kinubantium* of the Romans. The country round about here is in general open and pleasant. The greatest ornament to this town, and indeed to the west part of this country, is *Kimbolton Castle*, the noble and pleasant seat of his Grace the Duke of Manchester. It is a quadrangular building, seated near to the town.\* "The hall is fifty feet long, by twenty-five broad, and hung round with family portraits. On the right hand is the blue drawing room, thirty-five by twenty; over the chimney-piece hangs a fine picture of Prometheus, the horrible expression of which is very great. Between the windows are six small portraits, excellently done, particularly the man and woman in the middle; his face is very expressive, and the finishing in her's the same.

"The yellow drawing-room, thirty-five by twenty-two, with a handsome glass lustre in the centre: here is a most admirable portrait of Lord Holland, with an attendant officer, and a page adjusting his fash; the heads and hands, the drapery, and the relief of the figures are all fine.

A Virgin and sleeping child, strange attitude.

Virgin and child, eyes very bad.

"The saloon is forty by twenty-seven; hung with crimson velvet; the pillars in the two corners, very handsome ones; the slabs are of various marble in *Mosaic*; over the chimney, a picture of Hector and Andromache; the colours, attitudes, and expressions, are by no means pleasing.

"The state bed-chamber, twenty-seven by twenty-one, is hung with cut velvet, the pier glasses and slab glasses are from Venice; the border of the fire is pretty. In the closet is a Magdalen; the expres-

\* Young.

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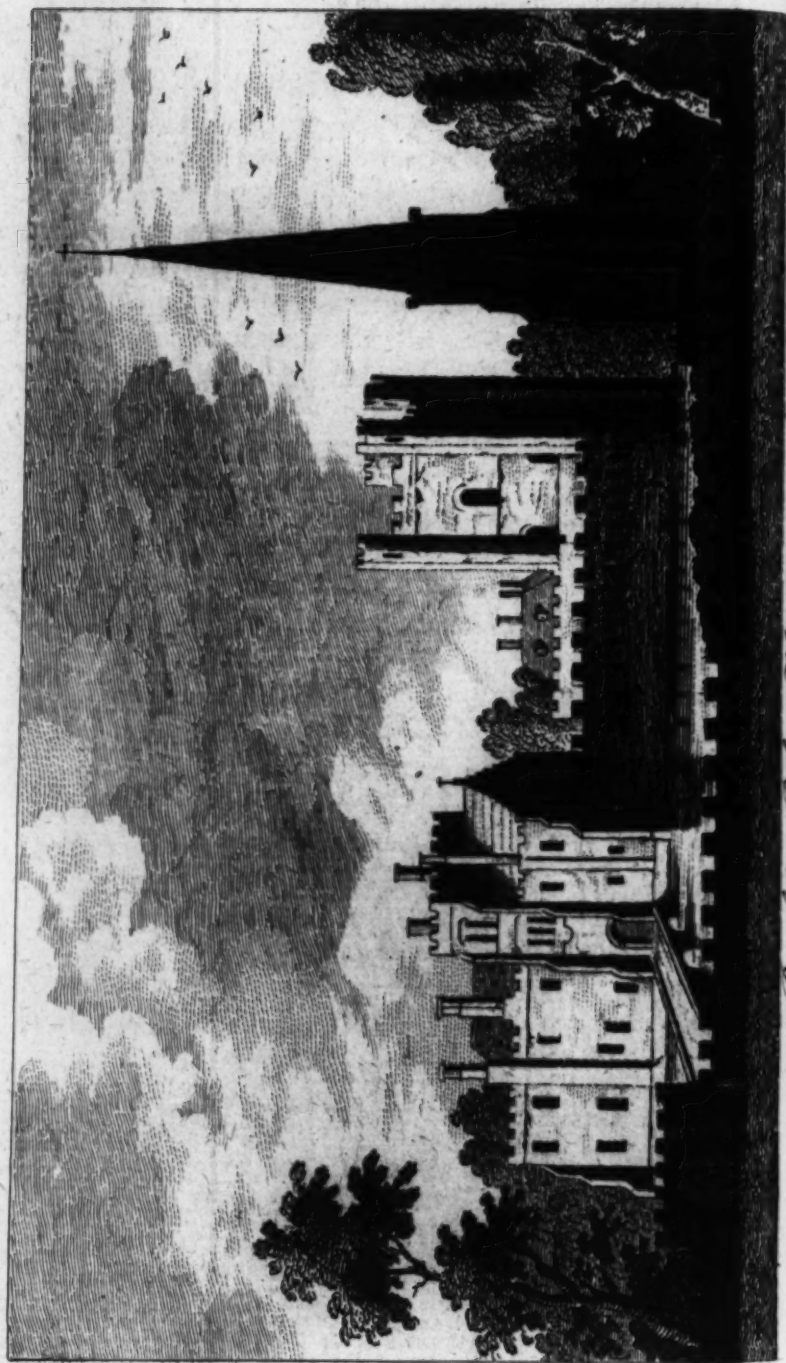
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sion of pain in her countenance not amiss; the thought seems borrowed from Lord Pembroke's Venus. Through the stair-case is a small room, hung with very fine drawings, after Raphael and Julio Romano.

"The dining-room is forty by twenty-seven.

"The library, twenty-four square, the book-case pretty."

Not far from here is *Bugden*, sixty-two miles from London. It is a large village, in which is a very pleasant, though ancient, palace of the Bishops of Lincoln: the house and gardens are surrounded by a wide and deep moat of water. There is a small but pretty chapel, ornamented with a painting against the wall, representing an organ in a seeming organ loft. This is capitally executed, and a very great deception.

*St. Ives*, sixty-four miles from London; the road to which leads from Huntingdon. This is a pretty neat market town, but it is lessened and has suffered greatly by fire. It takes its name, according to *Camden*, from Ives, a Persian Bishop, who, about 600, came over to England, where he preached the gospel, and died at this place. By a draught of an old Saxon coin, in the Philosophical Transactions, it appears to have formerly had a mint. Here Cromwell, after he had prodigally wasted his paternal estate, rented a farm, before he was elected burghess for Cambridge,

# HUNTINGDONSHIRE

THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF HUNTINGDONSHIRE, FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT OF THE BRITISH IN THAT COUNTRY, TO THE PRESENT TIME. BY JOHN HALL, ESQ. OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, ESQ. VOL. I.

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## NORFOLD CIRCUIT.

### S U F F O L K.

**T**HE name is a contraction of *Southfolk*, or the *Southern People*, as it was written among the Saxons to distinguish it from *Northfolk*, or the *People in the North*.

It is a maritime county, having the German ocean on the east; Cambridgeshire on the west; the river Stoure on the south, which divides it from Essex; and the rivers Ouse the Less and Waveney on the north, which parts it from Norfolk.

It is forty-five miles from east to west, according to *Magna Britannia*, which makes the general breadth not above twenty, except where it runs out by the advantage of a corner on the north-east side, as far as Yarmouth, and an hundred and forty miles in compass. *Mr. Templeman* makes the length sixty-two, the breadth twenty-eight, and the area twelve hundred and thirty-six square miles.

It is generally distinguished by two parts, viz. the Franchise, or the Liberty of St. Edmund's, and the Geldable; the first containing the west part of the county, and the second the eastern; and each of them furnishing a distinct grand jury at the assizes.

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The air is very clear and wholesome, sweet and pleasant, even near the sea-shore, because the beach is sandy and shelly, which shoots off the sea-water, and keeps it from stagnation and stinking mud. The physicians reckon it as good air as any in the kingdom.

The soil is various, that near the sea is sandy and full of heaths, yet abounds with rye, pease and hemp, and feeds great flocks of sheep. That called High Suffolk, or the wood-lands, which is the inner part of the county, though it abounds with wood, yet has a rich deep clay or marle, which produces good pasture, that feeds abundance of cattle. The part which borders on Essex and Cambridge, likewise affords excellent pasture; and about Bury and so on to the north and north-west, it is fruitful in corn, except towards Newmarket, which is for the most part green heath. It is said, that the feeding of sheep and cattle on turnips, was first set on foot in this county.

Its chief commodities are butter and cheese, the latter of which is somewhat the worse for the sake of enriching the former; but it is much the better for long voyages, by reason of its dryness, and the sea so mellows it, that it has been sold for twelve pence a pound. The butter, which is made here in great quantities, and conveyed to many parts of England, is incomparable; it is packed up in firkins, according to the statute, and sold in markets and fairs for all uses, both by sea and land, but more particularly by the cheesemongers in London. Well may its butter be good, since its milk is reckoned the best in England, and its dairy maids the fairest; Suffolk fair maids being as noted a proverb as Suffolk milk; but that the fairness of their complexion is chiefly owing to the goodness of the air, is much to be questioned; for to be sure it must in a great measure be ascribed to  
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their cleanliness and care. Fuel is very plenty in this county: that part of it called the High Suffolk, affording it abundance of wood, and Low Suffolk, which runs along the sea side, quite thro' the county, is constantly supplied with coals enough from Newcastle.

Its chief rivers are, 1. The Ouse. 2. The Waveney; which, though they rise in the north side of the county, run into Norfolk two different ways, the first north-west and the latter north-east, where, beyond Beccles, it forms two branches; one that runs east towards the sea, but stops short at Leostoff, and the other falls into the Toure, a little above Yarmouth. 3. The Blithe, which runs into the sea at Southwold. 4. The Ald, which passes by Framlingham, Aldborough and Orford. 5. The Deben, which rises almost in the middle of the county, and after a long course passes south-south-east by Woodbridge, from whence it is navigable into the German ocean. 6. The Orwel, or Gipping, which rises near Wintail, and passes on eastward by Stow, Needham and Ipswich into the same ocean. 7. The Stoure, which rises on the edge of Cambridgeshire, and runs all along the south side of this county, dividing it from Essex, and after passing eastward by Clare, Sudbury and Neyland, falls with the Orwel into the German ocean at Harwich. The principal manufactures at Suffolk are woollen and linen cloth. The rendezvous of the swallows in their passage to and from England, is observed no where so much as on this coast, between Orfordness and Yarmouth.

This county, which is in the diocese of Norwich, contains two archdeacons, viz. Sudbury and Suffolk, has given title of Marquis and Duke to several families, as it does that of Earl to a branch of the Howards.

It

It sends sixteen members to parliament, viz. two each for

The Shire,	Aldborough,
Ipswich,	Sudbury,
Dunwich,	Eye,
Orford,	St. Edmond's Bury.

The direct road to Bury St. Edmund's in this county, enters it at

*Sudbury*, fifty-six miles from London. It is situated on the river Stoure, which is now made navigable from Maningtree in Essex to this town, and is a great improvement to the trade thereof. This is a very ancient corporation, governed by a mayor, recorder, seven aldermen, a town-clerk, a bailiff, twenty-four common-council-men, and two serjeants at mace. Though this town carries on a good woollen manufactory, and the houses tolerably well built, yet some improvement is wanting in their streets, which being unpaved are very dirty in wet weather.

*Sudbury*, i. e. the *South Borough*, at present consists of three parishes, each having a large and handsome church; though one of them is rather a chapel of ease. The woollen trade here owes its rise to King Edward III. this being one of the first places in which that monarch placed the Flemings, whom he allured hither to teach the English the art of manufacturing their own wool, and which is in a very flourishing state at present. The chief employment of the people here is in making perpetuanas, says, serges, &c.

This is supposed to have been formerly the shire town, and to have had its name given it with respect to *Norwich*, i. e. the *Northern Town*. It still retains the pre-eminence in ecclesiastical jurisdiction, the county being divided, as has been already mentioned, into the two archdeaconries of *Sudbury* and

and Suffolk, and it gives title of Baron to the Duke of Grafton. It has sent members to parliament ever since the reign of Edward the Fourth.

Simon Theobald, surnamed Sudbury, Archbishop of Canterbury, translated hither from London, in the year 1375; was a native of this town. He was murdered at the instigation of one John Ball, a seditious and fanatical preacher, in Wat Tyler's rebellion. He was a prelate distinguished for his learning and charity. He built the upper end of St. Gregory's church in Sudbury, where his head is still shewn, entire, covered with the flesh and skin dried up by art, the mouth wide open, occasioned by convulsions through the hard death he died, having suffered eight blows before his head was cut off. He founded in the place where his father's house stood a neat college, which he furnished with secular priests and other ministers, and likewise endowed it bountifully.

Not far from Sudbury, is

*Milford*, esteemed the most pleasant and perhaps the largest village in England, being about a mile in length. It is fifty-nine miles from London, has an annual fair, divers good inns, many handsome houses, and creditable inhabitants. Here is the seat of Sir Cordell Firebrace, remarkable for its antiquity; it has fine gardens, well laid out, with fish-ponds, &c. The unhappy Mr. Drew resided here, who was barbarously murdered in the year 1739, and his son Charles Drew was executed for it; who either effected it with his own hands, or caused it to be done by some other person, by shooting him, for the sake of getting possession of his estate. East of this place is

*Lavenham*, or *Lanham*, sixty-one miles from London. The town is pleasantly situate on a branch

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of the river Bret, or Breton, and is pretty large. The market place is spacious, and formerly reaped great advantages from its trade in blue cloths; but though that is lost, it still has a considerable manufacture in serges, shalloons, says, stuffs, &c. and they spin great quantities of fine yarn here for London; and has of late flourished much by setting up an hall for selling wool, the town being conveniently situate for that purpose.

*Bures*, on the Stoure, near Sudbury, is supposed by the Annotator of *Camden*, to be *Bureem*, the royal villa mentioned in a manuscript, in the public library of Canterbury, and the Barva in Aperiens's Life of Alfred, where King Edward was crowned. In the year 1733, the spire of the steeple of the handsome church here was burnt by lightning, the bell frames destroyed, and the bells melted. Here is a good bridge over the river Stoure.

East of Lavenham is *Bildeston*, a market town, noted for the clothing trade, its good church, its mean building, and its dirtiness.

*Bury St. Edmund's*, seventy-two miles from London, is situate on the west side of the river Bourn, or Lark, which within these few years has been made navigable from Lynn to Fornham, about a mile north of the town. It is so regularly built, that almost all the streets cut one another at right angles. It stands on an easy ascent, and overlooks a fruitful inclosed country on the south and south-west; on the north and north-west the most delightful champaign fields, which extend themselves to Lynn, and that part of the Norfolk coast; and on the east the country is partly enclosed, and partly open. No wonder then it is called the *Montpelier of Suffolk*, and even of England: and indeed a certain ancient author says no more than it deserves;  
 " That

“ That the sun shines not upon a town more agreeable in its situation.”

It is governed by an alderman, who is their chief magistrate, a recorder, twelve capital burgessees, and twenty-four common-council-men, and sends two members to parliament.

It has two plentiful weekly markets on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and three annual fairs; one three days before and three days after the feast of St. Matthew; and it is generally protracted to a fortnight's length, for the diversion of the nobility and gentry that resort to it in great numbers.

The abbey, once so famous, was first built of wood, by Sigebert, King of the East Angles, soon after christianity was planted here; and when finished, (about the year 638) that King retired into it, and shut himself from the world.

King Edmund, from whom the town takes its name, began to reign over the East Angles in the year 855, in the fourteenth year of his age, and reigned fifteen years; being killed anno. 870, as supposed, at Hoxne, at twenty-nine years old, and his corpse was thirty-three years after removed to Bury. The abbey was much enriched thereby, and the monks, who were of the Benedictine order, found means, about the year 1012, to get it entirely to themselves, excluding the seculars; and the King Canute, in the fourth year of his reign, founded a more magnificent church, in honour of St. Edmund, which was finished in twelve years, and dedicated to Christ, St. Mary, and St. Edmund.

Uvius, Prior of Ulm, who was consecrated the first abbot, in the year 1020, got the abbey exempted from episcopal jurisdiction, and encompassed that and the town with a wall and ditch;

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the ruins of which in several places are still to be seen; and the abbots afterwards were made parliamentary barons. But in the reign of King Henry VIII. it shared the common fate of all religious houses, and that Prince wisely put an end to all its glory.

When the abbey was in its prosperity, there was a chapel at every one of its five gates, and the town abounded with chapels and oratories. It is possible these might be hospitals; for there was an hospital of St. Peter's without Risby-gate; an hospital of St. Saviour's without North-gate; an hospital of St. Nicholas at or near East-gate; and God's-house, or St. John's, at the South-gate; a college of priests, with a Guild, to the holy or sweet name of Jesus, the situation of which we cannot find; and a house of grey-friars at Babwell, or the Toll-gate. But at this time there are only two churches, which indeed are very beautiful and stately, and stand in the same church-yard; the one dedicated to St. Mary, the other built in the reign of Edward VI. to St. James. The latter has a convenient library; and at the west end of the south aisle are interred the bodies of the late Lord Chief Baron Reynolds, and his lady, to whose memories two large monuments are erected. The church of St. Mary has on the north side of the altar (to which we approach by a fine ascent of six steps) the tomb of Mary Queen of France, sister of Henry VIII. and wife of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. Her coffin is of lead, and has this inscription on it; *Mary Queen, 1533, of France, Edmund H——*. There are other handsome monuments in this church.

The other most remarkable public buildings are the abbey gate, which is still a fine monument of what the abbey once was; the guild-hall; the wool-



*St. Edmund's Bury-Abbey Suffolk.*





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wool-hall; the shire-house; the market-cross; and the grammar-school, endowed by King Edward the Sixth.

Such as is the town for situation, is the neighbourhood and gentry about it for politeness; and no place glories in handsomer ladies, or better families.

In the path-way between the two churches it was, that Arundel Coke, a Barrister at Law, in the year 1721, attempted (with the assistance of one Woodburne, a barbarous assassin) an unheard-of outrage on his brother-in-law, Edward Crisp, Esq. for the sake of possessing what he had. He had invited him, his wife, and family to supper with him; and in the night, on pretence of going to see a friend to them both, he led him into the church-yard, when, on a signal he gave, the assassin made at Mr. Crisp, with an hedge-bill, and in a most terrible manner mangled his head and face; and, supposing him dead, there left him; and Coke returned, as if he knew nothing of the matter, to the company. But it happening that Mr. Crisp was not killed, and coming back to the company, all bloody, and cruelly mangled, the shocking sight amazed and confounded them all, (Coke that he was not dead) the rest that he had met with so strange a disaster. Mr. Crisp survived this outrage many years, dying September 9, 1746; and Coke and Woodbourne the hired assassin, were justly executed for a villainy so detestable, that it hardly had its parallel. The gentleman not being killed, the assassins were tried and condemned on the statute for defacing and dismembring, called *The Coventry Act*: and Coke was so good a lawyer, and so hardened a wretch, that he thought to have saved himself, by pleading, that he intended not to *deface* but to *kill*. Some nice people say, the law was a little strained in their punishment, as the gentleman recovered; but surely,

ly, if in any case the letter might be dispensed with, and the spirit be brought in aid of it, it was right in this: and it would have been next to a national disgrace, not to have a law that would reach so flagrant and complicated a wickedness.

There is little or no manufacturing in this town, except spinning, the chief business of the place depending upon the neighbouring gentry, who cannot fail to cause trade enough by the expence of their families and equipages, among the people of a country town. Edward I. and Edward II. had each a mint at Bury, and some of their pennies coined there are yet remaining. *Stow*, in his Survey of London, says, that here was also a mint in King John's time.

History further relates, that this town was burnt by Swain the Danish King. In the reign of Henry II. the Jews, who were very numerous here, had a place of worship called Moses's Synagogue, which has since been converted into an hospital, or workhouse, for thirty boys and girls, till for murdering a boy, in derision of our Saviour's crucifixion, in 1179, and for other such offences elsewhere, they were banished the kingdom; yet we find that some of them returned hither again, for in 1190, the populace fell upon them, killed many and the rest that escaped were never permitted to come back.

This place has been famous for several conventions of the nobility and parliaments. The barons made their league here against King John. A parliament was held here in the reign of Henry III. and another in that of Edward I. In the reign of Edward III. the townsmen broke open the abbey, carried off its treasures, books and charters, and made the abbot and monks their prisoners, till they had sealed a charter of incorporation for the town, and given in the custody of all the town-gates, and the

the wardship of all its orphans; but nineteen of the rioters were executed, the town fined sixty thousand pounds, and all the writings that had been extorted from the abbot made void. A parliament was also held here in the year 1447, in the twenty-fifth year of Henry VI. At a meeting of this parliament, the good Humphry, Duke of Gloucester, Regent of the kingdom, during the absence of King Henry V. and in the minority of Henry VI. and, to his last hour, the safeguard of the nation and darling of the people, was basely murdered here; by whose death the gate was opened to that dreadful war between the houses of Lancaster and York, which ended in the destruction of the very race of those who are supposed to have contrived that murder.

Ludgate, the poet, was a monk here; and it boasts the honour of giving birth to Sir Nicholas Bacon, the father of Sir Nicholas, the first Baronet of England, and of the great Lord Verulam.

At great *Wetretbam*, some years ago, abundance of pots-heads and platters of Roman earth were found, some of which had inscriptions, as also coals, bones, and horns of cattle, a sacrificing knife, urns and ashes.

About five miles from Bury, is

*Ixworth*, a dirty ill built town, with but a poor market; but it is a thoroughfare, and has two annual fairs. It likewise gives title of Baron to the Earl of Bristol.

*Buadesdale*, or *Botesdale*, about fifteen miles and an half from Bury, is a great thoroughfare town, but dirty and meanly built: its chief note is its grammar free-school, founded by Sir Nicholas Bacon, and established by Queen Elizabeth. The master and usher are to be elected out of Bennet's-college, Cambridge. The master's salary is twenty pounds



pounds a year, with the benefit of the school-house, and the usher eight pounds, with a house and yard. Sir Nicholas also bequeathed twenty pounds a year to the said college, for six scholars out of this school, to whom, likewise, Archbishop Tennison is said to have given six pounds annually.

On the left of the road from Bury to Bottesdale, lies

*Livermere*, and *Ampton*, the seats of Baptist Lee, and — Calthorpe, Esqrs. The two parks join, and a noble serpentine river winds through both, made at the joint expence of both these gentlemen, over it is a handsome bridge, which greatly contributes to ornament the whole. Mr. Lee has a fine shrubbery of about twenty acres cut out of his park. The water and sloop in it are particularly beautiful. The first winds through a thickly planted wood, with a fine bold shore, in some places wide, in others so narrow, that the over hanging trees join their branches from side to side, and even darken the scene, which has a fine effect. The banks are every where uneven, first wild and rough, and covered with bushes and shrubs, then a fine green lawn in gentle swells, with scattered trees and shrubs to the banks of the water, and seats disposed with great judgment, at the termination of the water, the abruptness and ill effect of that circumstance (which is not trifling, for a water that has the least appearance of a river should not be seen to the end) is taken off by finishing with a dry scoop, which is beautiful, the bed of the river is continued for some distance a sloping lawn, with banks on each side, planted and managed with great taste.

Higher up is *Easton*, the seat of the Duke of Grafton, the park and plantations are very extensive, and worthy the view of the traveller. The approach

approach to the house from Bury, is exceedingly beautiful.

North-west from Bury is,

*Mildenball*, sixty-nine miles from London, a very large town, populous, pleasant, and well-built, situate on the river Larke. The church is handsome, and has a lofty steeple, an hundred and twenty feet, a little north of the church is the mansion-house of Sir Thomas Hanmer, Bart. who was speaker of the house of commons in the reign of Queen Anne. It now belongs to Sir Thomas Charles Bunbury. Within the church are some noble monuments for many of the Norths family. It has a plentiful market on Fridays, especially for fish and wild fowl, and a very considerable annual fair which lasts four days.

*Ickworth*, was formerly a parish, but now is a noble park, in which is the seat of the Earl of Bristol. The house is at present repairing and fitting up in great taste. The park is full of fine timber, and there was once great numbers of fine harlequin deer, as there are in Mr. Fonnereau's park near Ipswich. These were the only parks in England in which these beautiful deer were to be found; but from these, divers curious noblemen have been supplied with some of them. This is do doubt a place of great antiquity, and mentioned along with Ickingham, in the Addenda to Camden, as two of the places in this county, that are observed to retain the name of the Iceni. Roman coins have been found here, particularly a large pot of them, according to the report of the learned antiquarian Dr. Bathely, Archdeacon of Canterbury.

On the right of Bury, is

*Wulpit*, supposed by some to be the antient Sitomagus, by the appearance of large dry ditches, that are conjectured to be Roman works. Here is a

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handsome

handsome church and spire, and the place is noted for making the best white bricks.

At *Norton*, near this place, King Henry VIII. employed men to dig for gold, but was disappointed; the traces of their digging are visible.

*Stow-market*, seventy-five miles and an half from London, is a tolerable good town, situate in the centre of the county, on the banks of the *Orwell*. It has a manufacture for tammies, and other Norwich stuffs. The church is spacious and beautiful, with a lofty spire an hundred and twenty feet high.

*Ipswich*, sixty-nine miles from London, is situate in the south-east part of this county, in the direct road to Yarmouth. It was called by the Saxons *Gipeswic*, from its river then called *Gippin*, because of its winding stream, but now the *Orwell*. It formerly carried on a considerable trade, especially by sea, but now not so great as when its harbour was more commodious. *Camden* called it the *Eye* of the county. It is now principally employed in the clothing branch, and is a well built, large and populous town, much more so than many cities. Here are three yards constantly employed in ship-building, and there is above an hundred and fifty sail belonging to this port.

No place in Britain is qualified like Ipswich, for carrying on the Greenland-fishery; whether we respect the cheapness of building, and fitting out the ships and shallops; furnishing, victualling, and providing them with all kinds of stores; convenience for laying up the shipping after their voyage; room for erecting their magazines, warehouses, rope-walks, cooperages, &c. on the easiest terms; and especially for their noisome cookery, which attends boiling their blubber, which may be on this river, remote from any places of resort; then the nearness to the market for the oil, when it is made; and

and which above all ought to be regarded. The conveniency that arises from this consideration, that the same wind which carries them from the mouth of the haven, is fair to the very seas of Greenland.

The town forms a kind of half-moon, or semicircle, on the bank of the river, over which it has a good bridge of stone. The market-place is spacious; and in the midst of it is a fair cross, in which is the corn-market, adjoining are the shambles, or butchery, very commodious, and vulgarly but erroneously supposed to have been built by Cardinal Wolsey, for it owes its original to a much later date, viz. to the fortieth of Queen Elizabeth. Behind this is the herb-market, and in a spacious street, a little distant, is a market for butter, poultry and other country provisions, and another for fish, with which the town is served in great plenty. It has five market-days weekly: Tuesday and Thursday for butcher's meat; Wednesday and Friday for fish; and Saturday for all sorts of provisions. It has also five annual fairs; one on April 23; one on May 7 and 8; one on July 25; one on August 11 and 12, for cattle alone; and September 5 to 14, which is a very considerable one for butter and cheese, to which the whole country round resort, to furnish themselves with stores; as do also many of the London dealers in those commodities, who however are not suffered to buy till after the three first days of the fair.

There are at present twelve parish churches out of fourteen, which there once were; and two chapels in the corporation liberty, out of several, which have been demolished, besides meeting-houses, &c. and it once abounded with religious houses, which have yielded to the fate of the times.

Here is also a town-hall, with a spacious council-chamber, and other commodious apartments; a  
shire-



shire-hall, where the county sessions are held for the division of Ipswich; a large public library, adjoining to a noble hospital founded by the town, called Christ's-hospital, for the maintenance of poor children, old persons, and mariners; and in it rogues, vagabonds, and sturdy beggars are kept to hard labour. Also adjoining to this is a good free school; and here is likewise the noble foundation of Mr. Henry Tooley, in the year 1556, for poor old men and women.

This town is said to be one of the best places in England for families that are reduced to narrow circumstances, to reside in; for here are good and easy rented houses, genteel company, the best of inns, plenty of provisions, whether fish, flesh, or fowl, at a cheap rate; and easy passage to London, either by land or water, the coach going through it in one day. Ships of five hundred tons have been built here, yet at low water the harbour is almost dry, which made King Charles II. say to the Duke of Buckingham, "That it was a town without inhabitants, a river without water, streets without names, the *asses wore boots*." The meaning of the two last is, that the town is divided into four wards, and that Mr. Fonnereau's bowling-green, above mentioned, used to be rolled by asses in boots, that their hoofs might make no impression on the green. This seat is now in the possession of Thomas Fonnereau, Esq. late member of parliament for Sudbury. The house is built in the antient taste, but very commodious; it is called Christ-church; and was a priory or religious house in former times. The green or park is a great addition to the pleasantness of this town, the inhabitants being allowed to divert themselves there with walking, bowling, &c.

In this park are some of those beautiful deer, we mentioned before at Ickworth: they are of a fine  
white

white colour, spotted with black, like harlequin dogs, with bald faces. These intermixed with fallow deer, make a fine variety in the park.

This town had charters and a mint so early as in the reign of King John, but it received its last charter from King Charles II. who incorporated it by the name of two bailiffs, a recorder, twelve portmen, four of which, besides the bailiffs are justices of the peace, two coroners, twenty-four common-council-men, who are also high constables and twelve of them headboroughs, and fifteen petty constables; and sends two members to parliament.

It enjoys extraordinary privileges: for the bailiffs pass fines and recoveries, hear and determine causes, as well criminal as civil, arising in the town, and even crown causes, preferable to any of his Majesty's courts at Westminster. They appoint the assize of bread, wine, beer, &c. No freeman can be obliged to serve on juries out of the town, or bear any offices for the King, without his own consent, sheriffs for the county excepted. Nor are they obliged to pay any tolls or duties in any other parts of the kingdom, having cast the city of London in a trial at law for duties demanded by the city of freemens' ships in the river Thames. They are entitled to all waifs, estrays, &c. to all goods cast on shore within their admiralty-jurisdiction, which extends on the coast of Essex beyond Harwich, and on both sides the Suffolk coast; and their bailiffs even hold their admiralty court beyond Landguard-fort, &c. And by a solemn decision in their favour by an inquisition taken at Ipswich in the 14th of Edward III. they carried the point which Harwich contested with them, of taking custom-duties for goods coming into Harwich-haven, which was determined to belong solely to the bailiffs and burgesies of *Ipswich*.

This

This town had formerly four gates, tho' at present there are not the least remains of more than three. The western gate gives name to the lete, or ward, wherein it stands, which is called from it West-Gate-lete. It was probably nominated St. St. Matthew's-gate, from its being situated in the parish dedicated to that evangelist.

On the same spot formerly stood an older gate, which falling to ruin, this present building was erected, and made a goal, in the time of King Henry the Sixth, at the voluntary expence of John de Caldwell, bailiff and portman. The lower part, to the height of about fifteen feet, is of stone; but, according to the present barbarous custom, covered with plaister. The upper part is of brick, and must be amongst the earliest buildings with those materials, it being generally allowed, that bricks, in their present form, were not used in England till about the time of King Henry the Seventh, and then only for chimneys, palaces, or religious houses.

Adjoining to this gate, are to be seen some remains of the rampart, built in the fifth year of the reign of King John, to replace the ancient wall thrown down by the Danes, in the year 1000: being the second time of their ravaging this town within the space of ten years.

Near this place, formerly stood St. Mary's chapel, commonly called The Chapel of our Lady of Grace, famous for an image of the Virgin much resorted to by pilgrims. It is mentioned in the third part of the Homily against Peril of Idolatry, under the title of Our Lady of Ipswich, together with Our Lady of Walsingham, and Our Lady of Wilfdone.

The famous Cardinal Wolsey was born in this town; his father was a butcher in it, although according to Dr. Fiddes, who published his life, he seems to have been a man of substance for those times. This prelate, whose ambition and grandeur

were

were the chief motives of his ruin, resolved to shew some regard to the place of his nativity; and built and endowed a college and grammar-school here, to serve as a nursery for his great college at Oxford.

The foundation was in the twentieth year of Henry VIII. and he dedicated it to the honour of the blessed Virgin Mary. The first stone was laid with great solemnity by the then Bishop of Lincoln, on which occasion a grand procession was made thro' the town, from the college to the Church of our Lady.

The disgrace of the Cardinal ensued soon after the completion of this building, when Henry VIII. granted the site of it to Thomas Alwerden.

No part of this college is now remaining, except the gate, which stands adjoining to the east side of St. Peter's Church-yard, the rest has been long demolished, even to the very foundation. Kirby says, the first stone was, not long since, found in two pieces, worked up into a common wall in Woulform's-lane, with a Latin inscription to this effect, "In the year of Christ 1528, and the 20th of Henry VIII. King of England, on the 15th of June, laid by John Bishop of Lincoln.

"This gate (says Grosse) excepting a square stone tablet, on which is carved the arms of King Henry VIII. is entirely of brick, worked into niches, wreathed pinnacles and chimnies, flowers, and other decorations, according to the mode of those times. This is said, with great probability, to have been the great, or chief gate; for as the Cardinal, by setting the King's arms over a college of his own foundation, meant to flatter that monarch, it is not therefore likely he would place them on any other than the principal entrance. This building does not answer the character given of it by the writers of this prelate's Secret History, who say it was a sumptuous building; and indeed the  
Cardinal



Cardinal himself in an exhortory Latin preface to Lilly's Grammar, then lately published, styles it; "No ways inelegant." This is the more remarkable, as the architects of that period were extremely attentive, and expended great sums in the construction of gate-houses, which they generally made superior in magnificence to the other parts of the edifice; and it was particularly so in all the buildings erected by this cardinal.

At present it seems nodding to its fall, being much out of its perpendicular, and inclining towards the street.

A linen manufactory was attempted to be set up at this place, in favour of the French Refugees, who seemed to take a title to this place when they first came over, but it met with little success; tho' the poor people round about are employed in spinning wool for the manufacturing towns.

It might be deemed a great omission not to mention a most excellent charity, established for the relief and support of the widows and orphans of poor clergymen of the county of Suffolk, which was begun in the year 1704, by a voluntary subscription of a small number of gentlemen and clergy, in and about Ipswich and Woodbridge, and has since that time been carried on with such success, that the yearly collection, which in the year 1704 was but six pounds, by gradual advances every year, amounted, in the year 1740, to three hundred and twelve pounds, two shillings, and six pence: and in the whole thirty-seven years, to the sum of four thousand, four hundred, and sixteen pounds, nine shillings, and nine pence, and has gone on equally prosperous ever since.

Besides the yearly subscriptions, there have been divers gifts and legacies given to the said society, to the uses above mentioned, to the amount of five hundred and fifty-four pounds, seventeen shillings, which sum is laid out in South-sea annuities, and kept

for

for raising a capital stock for the general benefit of the charity; and the interest arising from it hath been, and still is, every year applied to the relief and support of the widows and orphans.

*Hadley*, no great distance from Ipswich, is famous for the martyrdom of Dr. Rowland Taylor, who was burnt at Aldham-common, in the year 1555. On the place where he was martyred, I observed a stone with this inscription:

Anno 1555.

Dr. Taylor, for defending what was good;  
In this place shed his blood.

It has been a town corporate, governed by a mayor, &c. but a *quo warranto* being brought against their charter, in the reign of King James II. it has not been renewed since. Here are two weekly markets and two annual fairs. It deals much in corn, and abounds with all manner of provisions. The town is large, and tolerably well built; but being in a bottom, is generally dirty. Its church is a handsome building, graced with a spire-steeple; and being near the middle of the town, is an ornament to it. It is of some note still for the manufacture of woollen cloths, but not so much as it was formerly:

A little to the south-west lies

*Neyland*, It is situate low, and has an handsome bridge over the river Stour, which often overflows it. It has a church, a charity-school for forty boys and twenty girls, and here too the bayes trade is carried on.

*Stoke Juxta Neyland* has a fair church and steeple, Giffard's-hall in this parish, is noted for a noble old seat, belonging to Sir Francis Manark, Bart. and Tendering-hall was the seat of Sir John Williams, Alderman of London. and lately of Sir William

C c

Rowley

Rowley, Knight of the Bath and Admiral of the Fleet, deceased.

*Stratford* is a thoroughfare village, of good traffic, and employs a number of hands in the woollen manufacture. About four miles from this place, is

*Eastgerbolt*, a large and handsome village, about a mile north of the Stour. The inhabitants are chiefly employed in the woollen way, but not so much as formerly. It has a good church, but the steeple is in ruins, and the bells are rung by hand, in a kind of cage set up in the church-yard.

About nine miles north-west from Ipswich, is

*Needham*, a great thoroughfare town. It is tolerable well built, has several considerable dealers in it, and formerly carried on a large woollen manufacture, which has greatly decayed within these few years.

*Debenham*, eighty-three miles and an half from London, the road to which branches off from Ipswich, takes its name from the river Deben, which runs by it; or, as others call it, *Deepenham*, from the deepness of its roads. It is pretty clear, though a meanly built town, among very dirty and heavy roads, being seated on a hill. The church is a tolerable good building, the market-place not contemptible. Here is a charity founded by Sir Robert Hitcham, who, by his will, provided that some of the poor should be employed at the workhouse at Framlingham, and some of the poorest children sent thither to the free-school, to be fitted there for apprenticeship, and then to be put out with ten pounds each.

*Rendlisham*, on the river Deben, is interpreted by Bede to be the home mansion of Rendilus, where Redwold, King of the East Angles kept his court.

*Eye*, seven miles from Debenham, and ninety and an half from London, is a corporate town, governed

governed by two bailiffs, ten principal burgesſes, and twenty-four common-council-men. It gives title of Baron to Earl Cornwallis, and ſends two members to parliament. The ſituation of this town is in a bottom, between two rivers, but it is meanly built, and the ſtreets dirty. Near the weſt end of the church are ſtill to be ſeen ſome of the ruinous walls of the caſtle.

*Woodbridge*, ſeven miles from Ipſwich, and ſeventy-fix miles and an half from London, is a market town, ſituate on the river Deben, about eleven miles from the ſea. The river being made navigable to this town for ſhips of conſiderable burden, it drives a pretty good trade with Holland, Newcaſtle and London; and has paſſage hoys that go to and return from London weekly. It traded formerly in ſack-cloth, and now in refining ſalt. It has a fine church with a ſteeple. The ſhire-hall is an handſome pile of building, where the quarter ſeſſions for this part of the county are held, and under it is the corn-croſs. One ſtreet in it, called Stone-ſtreet, is well built, and paved; but the reſt are dirty. The market-place is alſo well enough built; but the reſt of the town is mean. The quays and warehouses are very commodious; and here is a grammar-ſchool, and an alms-houſe, erected in 1587, by Thomas Seckford, Maſter of the Requeſts, for thirteen men and three women, which is well endowed. It has a pretty good market on Wedneſdays, and two annual fairs.

*Wickham*, eighty-one miles and a quarter from London, is likewiſe ſituate on the river Deben. It is now but a village, though formerly it had its ſhare of trade, and the civil and ſpiritual courts are ſtill held in it. The church ſtands on a hill, and though the ſteeple be but twenty-three yards high, it affords the beſt proſpect of any in Suffolk;  
for



for near fifty parish-churches may be seen from thence in a clear day.

*Inape*, was once noted for a famous monastery, few remains of which are now to be seen. It has a considerable annual fair for horses, which lasts four days, beginning August 11, to which the London jockies resort.

*Ufford*, two miles north-east of Woodbridge, was formerly a manor dependant on the castle town and manor of Eye. At present it is little worthy of notice, but for the ruins of a chapel, called Sogenboc chapel.

From Wickham, the road leads to

*Saxmundham*, eighty-nine miles from London. It is a very dirty town, of little or no note. Nine miles from this place is

*Blyborough*, or *Bliburg*, ninety-eight miles from London. It is situate on the banks of the river Blyth, from which it takes its name. It is memorable for the interment of the christian King Anna, who was slain in battle by Penda the Mercian. It is thought to have been an antient, tho' it is now so mean a place, from several Roman urns dug up not many years ago, among old buildings; and it was of great note also in the Saxon and following ages, as appears partly from its having the goal for the division of Beccles, which evinces that the sessions were formerly kept here. It has a fine old church, kept in good repair; and Henry the first founded a priory here, the ruins of which are still extant. Some authors say it was founded by an abbot of St. Osith in Essex, to which it was made a cell. Richard Beauveys, Bishop of London, in the year 1108, was so great a benefactor as to be esteemed almost a founder. It was a college of Black Canons, called Præmonstratensies, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. King Richard the Third, by his charter, printed  
in

in the Monasticon, recites and confirms all the grants made to these canons by the benefaction therein named.

At the suppression it was valued at forty-eight pounds eight shillings and ten pence per annum, about which time there were therein five religious. In the 30th of Henry VIII. it was granted to Sir Arthur Hopton, Knight. then Lord of the Manor. At present it belongs to Sir John Blois.

King Edward II. granted this town both a market and a fair, by the favour of Lord Clavering, which are since discontinued.

*Hemmington*, deserves mention for the sake of the facetious tenure whereby it was formerly held; which, as droll as it is, the grave and delicate Mr. *Camden*, related it purely to shew the plain, simple and jolly mirth of those times.

“It was a manor held by Baldwin de Petteur, (observe the name, says *Camden*) by serjeantry, (as it is expressed in an antient book) for which he was obliged every Christmas-day, to perform before our Lord the King of England, one saltus, one sufflatus, and one bumbulus; or as it is elsewhere read, a saltus, a sufflatus, and a pettus; that is, says *Camden*, if I apprehend it aright, he was to dance, make a noise with his cheeks, and to let a fart, in the presence of the King.

*Bectles*, an hundred and eight miles from London, is situate upon the river Waveney, which is navigable hither from Yarmouth, by barges. The town is large and populous, but not extraordinary well built; though the streets are paved and kept clean. The church is handsome, with a good steeple; here are also two free schools, well endowed, one a grammar-school with ten scholarships for Emanuel college in Cambridge, appropriated to it by King James I. by Sir John Lemar, Knight. There are still visible the ruin of another church,

church, called Ingate-church. The quarter-sessions for the liberty of Blything are commonly held here; and a common belongs to the town of not less than a thousand acres.

In the church at Beccles is the following remarkable epitaph, written in the law stile:

Hic jacet corpus Thomæ Wrongey, generosi, unius  
attornatorum domini Regis de Banco apud  
Westm. Juxta libertates & privilegia ejusdem  
curiæ, tertio die Aprilis, privilegio suo non ob-  
stante, morte arrestatur; hic in sepulchri prisona  
detinetur; nec aliqua legis subtilitate ab eadem  
ante generalem goalæ deliberationem liberandum;  
cum Christus ad totum terrarum orbem judican-  
dum venerit.

In English thus:

Here lies the body of Thomas Wrongey, Gent. one  
of the Attornies of the King's Bench at West-  
minster. According to the liberties and privi-  
leges of the same court, on the third day of  
April, his privilege notwithstanding, it was ar-  
rested by death, and is here detained in the pri-  
son of the grave; from whence it shall not by  
any quirk be again delivered before the general  
gaol-delivery, when Christ shall come to judge  
the whole world.

*Bungay*, an hundred and seven miles from Lon-  
don, is a large town, delightfully situated on the  
same river, made navigable to it from Yarmouth,  
and which almost surrounds it. It had formerly a  
Benedictine nunnery, and a very strong castle in  
the reign of King Stephen, the ruins of which are  
still to be seen, though it was demolished in the  
reign of King Henry III.

This

This castle was so strong, that Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, its owner, in the wars between the Empress Maud and King Stephen, (with the latter of whom he sided) made this boast upon it.

Were I in my castle of Bungay,  
Upon the river Waveney,  
I would not care for the King of Cockney.

In the year 1688-9, a fire broke out in this town, which almost consumed it in four hours time, except one little street to the loss and damage of near thirty thousand pounds; but it has been since handsomely rebuilt. Here is a market weekly on Thursdays, well served with all manner of provisions. Adjoining to the town is a large common, which is of great advantage to the inhabitants. On it is a race-ground, which is kept in good order.

The two towns last mentioned, with two others in this county, have incurred this proverbial censure, though with what justice does not appear:

BECCLES for a Puritan,

BUNGAY for the Poor,

HALESWORTH for a Drunkard,

And BILBOROUGH for a Whore.

At the mouth of the Waveney, is *Burgh Castle*, a place of considerable note in the time of the Romans. The walls on the east, north and south sides, are still standing pretty intire. The river being a defence on the west, no wall was wanting there.

*Framlingham*, six miles from Wickham, and eighty-seven and a quarter from London, is a large town, well built, and pleasantly situate near  
The



the head of the river Ouse. It is of great antiquity, and made a figure in the English history. It is affirmed to be of British original, and conquered by the Romans, when they defeated the British Amazon, Boadicia. The market-place is spacious, but its greatest ornament is its church, which is built of black flint, and is a very stately and noble edifice, wherein several of the Mowbrays, Dukes of Norfolk, lie buried. There are two good almshouses, and a free-school founded by Sir Robert Hitcham, who is interred in the church, for forty poor boys, who are taught to read, write and cast accompts; and ten pounds is given to settle each of them apprentice.

Here are the remains of a castle, a most valuable piece of antiquity; there are the ruins of many of the old dwelling houses, and others that have been since erected. Grosse, who has given a plate of the inside of this castle has the following account of it.

The large house, towards the left-hand, in all likelihood, was in being when the castle was entire; as both by the bricks and stile of building, it appears to have been constructed about the time of Henry the Eighth, or Queen Elizabeth.

The chimnies, many of which are still standing in the towers, are worthy of observation, being curiously wrought into various figures with ground or rubbed bricks; indeed the artificers of those days gave many extraordinary instances how perfectly these materials might be worked into the different mouldings and ornaments of architecture.

In the year 1173, Queen Eleanor, out of revenge (as it is supposed) for the matrimonial infidelities of her husband, Henry the Second, incited his son Henry, an ambitious and ungrateful youth, to raise a rebellion against his father in Normandy. He was assisted by the Kings of France and Scotland

land, and joined by many of the barons, amongst whom was Robert Earl of Leicester, who crossing the sea with a body of French, and three (some say ten) thousand Flemings landed at Walton, in this county, and was received by Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, into his castle of Framlingham. From hence they made frequent incursions, to the great annoyance of the neighbourhood, which they repeatedly lay under heavy contributions, robbing and despoiling all passengers, burning villages and castles, and committing divers other enormities; in-  
 somuch that Hugh Lacy, the Chief-Justice of England, assisted by Humphry de Bohun, attacked and defeated them in a pitched battle, fought at a place called St. Martin's, at Fornham, near Bury St. Edmund's. In this engagement, the Earl of Leicester, and his wife, a lady of a masculine spirit and deportment, were taken prisoners, together with many of the French; but the Flemings were, to a man, all either slain or drowned. Their bodies were afterwards buried in and about that village.

Henry having reduced his son to obedience, soon after returned to England; when he besieged, took, and dismantled this castle. Its owner, Hugh Bigod, obtained his pardon, on paying to the King four thousand marks; but the Earl of Leicester did not escape so easily, for he was conveyed prisoner to Normandy, where he was closely confined; his castle at Leicester was demolished, the town burned, its walls razed, and the inhabitants dispersed into other places.

Hither likewise, in the year 1553, Queen Mary retired, on notice being sent her, by the Earl of Arundel, of the death of her brother, Edward the Sixth, and of the patent for the succession of the Lady Jane. She chose this place, not only as being near the sea, whereby she might easily make her escape to Flanders; but also because the great

D d

slaughter

slaughter of Ket's followers, by the Duke of Northumberland, in the late reign, made him, and consequently his party, extremely odious in the neighbourhood. The event justified her choice; for she was joined by almost all the inhabitants of this and the adjacent counties, who encamped near the castle, to the number of thirteen thousand men. From hence she soon set off for London, to take possession of the crown, relinquished by her unfortunate competitor. She was met in her way by the Lady Elizabeth, at the head of a thousand horse, which that princess had raised for her service.

In the year 1653, an act of parliament passed, settling and confirming the manors of Framlingham and Saxtead, in the county of Suffolk, with the lands, tenements and hereditaments thereunto belonging, devised by Sir Robert Hitcham, Knight, late Serjeant at Law, to certain charitable uses.

*Southwold*, five miles from Blyborough, and about an hundred and four from London, is a small incorporated town, pleasantly situated on a hill, and almost surrounded by the sea and the river Blyth, over which it has a bridge. It is governed by two bailiffs; and has some share of commerce from its situation; the inhabitants have been greatly benefited by the act of parliament passed within these few years, to establish the herring-fishery; more particularly as it recommended this place to the notice of the legislature, in consequence of which an act passed in the year 1746-7, for opening, cleaning, repairing, and improving the haven, to be in force for twenty-one years; but that not having answered the desired end, another act was passed for enlarging the term to twenty-one years more, and for amending and altering the powers granted by the former act.

This town is a member of the port of Yarmouth, and Walberswick, commonly written Walderswick,

is a creek to Southwold. At present these two places are but little regarded, but our posterity will, from experience, discover, that a navigable river, and good harbour, deserves to be purchased here, though at a considerable expence.

Southwold in particular, as well as all the coasts from Harwich to Winterton-ness, is noted for the first arrival of the swallows to this island, and for their departure, when they leave ours, for other climates, not so much for warmth, but for finding their common prey, viz. the insects, which the air swarms with in the summer evenings, till the cold weather comes in and kills them.

The bay before the town, anciently called from thence *Soul-bay*, now commonly, though corruptly, *Sole-bay*, was a frequent station of the royal navy during the Dutch wars, and is memorable for two famous sea fights, the former June 3, 1665, and the latter, May 28, 1672, both to the disadvantage of the Dutch.

This bay was formerly bounded by Easton-ness, so called, because supposed to be the most eastern point of this coast, and another cape to the south-east of Dunwich; but the sea having removed these marks, it may now be said to leave Covehith-ness, with the Burnet, a sand lying before it, on the north, and Thorp-ness on the south, a very commodious road for ships, and justly famous for its fishery, particularly for soals, which, in point of size and flavour, are not inferior to any caught upon the coast of this island.

*Orford*, eighty-eight miles from London, and eight from Woodbridge, is a large populous town, situate on the river Ouse. It was incorporated by King Henry III. by the name of a mayor, eighteen portmen, twelve chief burgessees, &c. It had formerly a nunnery, and a very strong castle, the ruins  
of



of which are still to be seen. *Grosse* gives us the following circumstantial account of it :

“ Orford-castle stands a small distance west of the town. Neither the builder, nor the time of its construction, are positively ascertained ; but that it is of Norman origin, seems evident from its being coined, and in some places cased, with Caen-stone. It was probably built about the time of the conquest ; and, according to a marvellous story mentioned by *Camden* from *Ralph de Coggeshal*, was in being in the reign of Henry the First ; at which time *Roger de Glanvil* was constable thereof. *Stowe*, from the same authority, and naming the same constable, gives this prodigy, in the thirty-third of Henry the Second ; and it is by other writers placed almost an hundred years later ; namely, in the sixth of King John. These relate it as follows :

“ In the sixth year of John’s reign, some fishermen of Orford in Suffolk, took a sea monster in their nets, resembling a man in shape and limbs. He was given to the governor of Orford-castle, who kept him several days ; he was hairy in those parts of the body where hair grows, except the crown of his head, which was bald : his beard was long and rugged : he eat fish and flesh raw or boiled ; the raw he pressed in his hands before he eat it ; he would not or could not speak ; though, to force him to it, the governor’s servants tied him up by the heels and cruelly tormented him. He lay down on the couch at sun-set, and rose at sun-rising. The fisher-men carried him one day to the sea, and let him go ; having first spread three rows of strong nets to secure him ; but he diving under all, appeared beyond them ; and seemed, by his often rising and diving, to deride the fishermen ; who giving him over for lost, returned home ; but the monster soon after followed them. He continued

tinued with them some time; but being weary of living ashore, watched an opportunity, and stole away to sea.

“The spot whereon the castle stands was, it is said, formerly the centre of the town. This tradition has the appearance of being founded on truth, from the great quantity of old bricks, stones, and other remains of buildings, constantly turned up by the plough in the fields, west and south of that edifice: besides, several of them retain the name of street annexed to their denomination of field: such as the West-street-field, and the like; all alluding to streets formerly there situated; and it is further confirmed by the charter of the corporation, and other authentic records. Certainly Orford was once a large and considerable trading town; till the sea throwing up a dangerous bar at the harbour’s mouth, it fell to decay, and is now dwindled to a small poor village, but still continues to send members to parliament. It is a corporation and manor, although no parish; its church being only a chapel of ease to Sudborne. The stile of the manor court is, “Sudborne cum capella de Orford.”

“Of the castle, there remains at present only the keep; its shape, a polygon of eighteen sides, described within a circle, whose radius is twenty-seven feet. The polygon is flanked by three square towers, placed at equal distances on the west, north-east, and south-east sides; each tower measuring in front nearly twenty-two, and projecting from the main building twelve feet. They are embattled, and over-look the polygon, whose height is ninety feet, and the thickness of its walls, at bottom, twenty. At the lower part they are solid; but above are interspersed with galleries and small apartments. Round this building ran two circular ditches; one fifteen, the other about thirty-eight,  
feet

feet distant from its walls : their depth measures fifteen feet, and at bottom they are six feet broad. These dimensions are taken from an accurate plan, communicated by a gentleman who resides on the spot.

“ Between the two ditches was a circular wall ; part of which, opposite to the south tower, is still remaining : it is forty feet in length, the same in height, and has a parapet and battlements. The entrance into the castle was through a square building, adjoining to the west side of the tower, on the south part of the polygon. To it a bridge was laid over the two ditches ; the arches of which have been long choaked up. The inside of the body of the castle contained one room on a floor ; it was divided into four stories, as may be seen by the holes made in the wall for the reception of the joists. There is a spiral stair-case ; which, although now somewhat ruined, may be easily ascended to within twenty feet of the top.

“ The main building is lighted by two, and the towers by five stages of small windows.

“ The inhabitants say, there was a small building, which fell down about forty years ago, that joined to the keep, and was called the kettle-house ; probably it was, the kitchen. Its materials have been carried away.”

South-west from Orford, on the other side of the river, is

*Alderton*, a little village about two miles distant from the sea. Its church is a piece of antiquity ; neither the builder nor the time of its erection is known. Though the inhabitants cannot give us any satisfactory information of its present ruinous condition, yet it may with the greatest probability be imputed to the depredations of time.

On a point of land formed by the junction of the Ipswich and Manningtree rivers, stands

*Anverton.*

*Arwerton-hall*, the mansion-house of the manor of that name. The house and offices are so greatly fallen to decay, that they are now so thoroughly in ruins as to be irreparable. We should not have taken notice of this place, but for its gate, which is noticed by travellers, not for its beauty, but for its singularity of form; which is a kind of unnatural and discordant jumble of Grecian and Gothic architecture, in vogue about the time of Queen Elizabeth and King James the First, when this whimsical structure is supposed to have been erected.

From Blyborough, the road branches off to *Leofstoft*, or *Lowestoff*, an hundred and seventeen miles from London; a considerable market town, standing near the sea. The buildings are tolerable, and the church, which is situate near a mile on the west side of the town, is no contemptible piece of structure: there is likewise a chapel in the town for the ease of the inhabitants. The chief business carried on here is fishing for herrings and mackarel. Besides the places of divine worship before mentioned, there was formerly at the south end of the town a chapel, called Goodcross-chapel; which hath long since been swallowed up by the sea. This town having been part of the ancient demesnes of the crown, hath a charter and town seal; but the greatest privileges it now enjoys from its charter, is that of its inhabitants not serving on juries, either at the sessions or assizes. It has a noted weekly market on Wednesdays; and two small fairs yearly, one on the first of May, and the other on the 29th of September.

Below the north end of this town is the *Ness*, the most eastern point of land in the Kingdom.

The inhabitants of the sea-coast, or *Stone Beach*, between Orford and Aldborough, called the *Sbingles*; valued themselves upon a singular favour of Providence



vidence, which in the time of great dearth, sent them a crop of pease among the hard rocks in the beginning of Autumn, 1555. But the more judicious see no miracle in this matter, and think it may very well be solved, by imagining the sea might throw in some pulse, left in it by shipwreck, which caused that unusual growth.

Other places of note in this county, not yet taken notice of, are

*Redgrave*, a village situate on the north-east side of Botesdale, where is the family seat of the Holts. Here is a beautiful monument erected to the memory of that excellent judge, Sir John Holt, on which is the following inscription, written by the late Dr. Edmund Halley :

M. S.

*D. Johannis Holt*, Equitis Aur.

Totius Angliæ in Banco Regis,

Per 21 Annos continuos,

Capitalis Justitiarium ;

Gulielmo Regi, Annæque Reginae,

Consiliarii perpetui ;

Libertatis ac Legum Anglicarum

Affertoris, Vindicis, Custodis,

Vigilis, Acris, & Intrepidi,

Rolandus Frater Unicus et Hæres

Optime de se Merito

Posuit.

Die Martii Vto. 1709. sublatis est

ex Oculis nostris.

Natus 30. Decembris, Anno 1640.

In English thus :

Sacred to the memory of Sir John Holt, Knight,  
Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench for the  
space of twenty-one years successively, and of the  
privy-

privy-council to King William and Queen Anne; a vigilant penetrating, and intrepid assertor, vindicator, and guardian of the liberty and laws of England.

Rowland, his only brother and heir, erected this monument as a testimony of the strongest obligations. He departed this life the 5th of March, in the year 1709. The day of his birth was the 30th of December, in the year 1640.

At *Sudbourne*, near Aldborough, is the fine seat of the Lord Viscount Hereford.

*Letheringham*, was of note for a little priory, which was obtained at the dissolution by Sir Anthony Wingfield; and Sir *Henry Spelman* tells us, that as a judgment for the sacrilege, he died without male issue. It was converted into a mansion house, and became the seat of the Nauntons. Sir Roger Nauntton, was Secretary of State to King James I. and Master of the Court of Wards and Liveries. He died in the year 1630. In the abbey is a large gallery adorned with several valuable pictures; and in *Lethingham* church, are some elegant monuments of the Wingfields and Nauntons.

At *Offton*, near Hadley, was formerly a castle, situate upon a chalky hill; it is said by *Camden* to have been erected by Offa, King of the Mercians, from whom the town took its name.

The spire of *Whepsted*-church was blown down by the great wind at the death of Oliver Cromwell.

very much to the same effect as the above. The only difference is that the first part of the text is written in a different hand. The second part of the text is written in the same hand as the first part of the text.

The first of these is the fact that the  
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## NORFOLK CIRCUIT.

## N O R F O L K.

**T**HIS county takes its name from its northern situation in respect to Suffolk, as if one should say, the Northern people, or the Northern branch of the East Angles.

It is divided from Suffolk, on the south, by the rivers Waveney and Ouse the Less, and is washed by the German ocean on the east and north. It is separated from a small part of Lincolnshire, also on the west, by the *Metaris Æstuarium*, or as it is commonly called, the Washes. Mr. *Templeman* computes its length to be fifty-seven miles, its breadth thirty-five, and its area one thousand four hundred and twenty-six miles, or an hundred and forty in circumference. It contains one city, thirty-two market towns, and seven hundred and eleven villages.

The air is of various temperatures in the several parts of the county. In the hundreds of Fleg and Marsh-land by the sea side, it is unwholesome and aguish, for there the soil is boggy and oufy, so that it is common to say of a stranger, at his first coming



coming into this low country, "that he is arrested by the bailiff of Marshland;" i. e. is clapped upon the back by an ague; and it is not much better in the towns bordering on Linner-deep. The inland part of the county being heathy and open is very pleasant and healthy, and the air sometimes sharp and piercing.

It has a greater variety of soil, than is, perhaps, in any other county, and for that reason has obtained the appellation of the Representative of all England, for the best and worst of soils; but even the latter, i. e. fens and marshes, and the sandy heaths, are extremely profitable; the former affording rich pasture for cattle, and the latter feeding great flocks of hardy strong sheep, of a peculiar kind to this county, called *Norfolks*, and vast numbers of delicate silver-haired rabbits. The light deep and clay grounds, are very fruitful in rye and pease, wheat and barley; and near Walsingham they produce saffron. On the banks of its rivers and rivulets, are many fine meadows and pastures; and near its towns are many springs, groves and coppices: some villages are said to keep no less than five thousand sheep. The lord of every town orders how many, and what sort of sheep the people shall have, directs their walks both in winter and summer, where they shall be folded for the sake of their dung, and how they shall be driven from place to place.

The chief rivers of this county, not to mention its rivulets, are, the Yare, the Thyrn and the Waveney, the Greater and Lesser Ouse, and the Bure, all abounding with fish, the last of which is noted for excellent perch; and in the Yare is a peculiar sort called the Ruffe. This river, which is particuliar to Norfolk, rises near the centre of it, and runs eastward through Norwich to Yarmouth, where it falls into the German ocean. A  
little

little above Yarmouth it is joined by the Waveney, as it is also by the Bure also on the north side. The Ouse is remarkable for its extraordinary overflowings at the two equinoxes, and especially at the full moon, in the autumnal one; when a vast heap of waters from the sea comes in upon it with such fury, that the inhabitants call it the Eager; for it overwhelms every thing in its way, and the very water fowls shun it. There is a great herring-fishery on the coast, which begins in September and brings a great trade and treasury to Yarmouth. Mackarel are also caught here in the spring in vast quantities, so that here are every year two great fairs for herrings and mackarel.

Of all the counties in England, this is observed to be the most populous for its compass, and the thickest set with towns and villages. The natives are of a bright clear complexion, and generally rich, and live handsomely, which some think is one reason why they were formerly especially so much given to the study of the laws; so that even the common sort of people were not unacquainted with the little niceties of courts and pleadings. Riches bred quarrels, and quarrels law-suits, and these drove the parties engaged to the examination of their cause, which would never have been started nor thought of, if they had been as hard put to it for the common necessities of life as they were in many other places. But to prevent the inconveniencies of too many attornies here, with which this county swarmed at one time, a statute was made so long ago as the reign of Henry VI. to restrain their number.

The inhabitants are, in general, not only sharp and cunning, but strong and robust; which is the more to be remarked, because the commonalty live so much upon puddings, &c. that *Norfolk Dump-lings* are a proverb. Woollen and worsted stuffs are their

their chief manufactures, which is a great encouragement for the husbandmen to encrease their flocks of sheep; and they are in some places so diligent in nourishing and encreasing their stocks of bees, that honey in these parts is very plentiful. Jet and ambergrease are sometimes found on its coasts.

The county lies in the diocese of Norwich, gives title of Duke to the elder branch of the Howards, and sends twelve members to parliament, viz. two knights for the shire, two citizens for Norwich, and two burgeses each, for

Lynn Regis, Thetford,  
Great Yarmouth, Castle Rising.

Joining the road at Newmarket, and proceeding through the western part of Suffolk, we enter this county at

*Methwold*, eighty-six miles and an half from London. It is chiefly noted for breeding of excellent rabbits, commonly called Melville rabbits.

On the east side of this road is

*Castle-Acre Castle*. The north gate of the castle stands west of the entrenchment and surrounds the keep or citadel. In the south wall was another gate, now in ruins. Here is likewise the remains of a monastery, of which the following extract is taken from the Rev. Mr. *Parkin's* Topographical History of Freebridge Hundred and an Half in the county of Norfolk, printed in the year 1772.

"On the 22d of November, 1533, Thomas Malling, Prior, and his convent, surrendered this priory, with the manor of Castleacre Prior's, and all its appurtenances, to King Henry VIII. In the surrender deed, it is expressed, "for certain causes, just and reasonable, them, their souls and consciences, especially moving, together with the scite of all the manors, messuages, lands and tenements, rents and services, &c. advowsons, and all manner  
of

of thing thereunto belonging in Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Middlesex, Cambridgeshire, &c. in England and Wales; and signed by Thomas Malling, Prior, and ten monks: videlicet, John Hownsword, William Burguillion, Robert Daniel, Robert Fisse, William Elys, John Bets, Edmund Wodenowe, John Lowe, Robert Saory, and Robert Holman; and these following were found guilty of the most notorious incontinency and uncleanness, John Bets, William Elys, Robert Hocton, Robert Snape, James Helvington, Edward Acres, and Edward Kirkby.

“ The King, on December 22, in his 39th year, granted the scite of this priory, the Prior’s manor, the impropriated rectory and advowson of the vicarage, to Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk; and in the second of Elizabeth, the Duke of Norfolk alienated it to Thomas Gresham, who, in the preceding year, had purchased also of Henry Earl of Arundel the lordship of the Earl’s manor of Castleacre. The Duke is said to convey his part for two thousand pounds. Gresham conveyed his right in both these lordships to Thomas Cecil, afterwards Earl of Exeter; and his son, William Earl of Exeter sold them to Sir Edward Coke; whose descendant, the Right Hon. Thomas Coke, Earl of Leicester, was Lord of the Manor of Arundel, or Earls, Prior’s, and Fox’s, Impropiator and Patron of the Vicarage.

“ The scite of the priory church lies west of the castle, was a venerable large Gothic pile, of freestone, flint, &c. and built in a cathedral or conventual manner: great part of the front, or west end of it is still remaining, where the principal entrance was through a great arch, over which was a stately window; on each side of the great door were doors to enter into the north and south aisles, under the tower, as the grand doors served for an entrance  
into



into the nave, or body. At the north or south end of this front, or west end, stood two towers, supported by strong arches and pillars. The nave, or body had twelve great pillars, making seven arches on each side, the lowest joining to the towers. On the east end of the nave stood the grand tower, supported by four great pillars, through which was the entrance into the choir. On the south and north sides of this tower were two cross aisles or transepts; and at the end of the north transept there seems to have been a chapel or vestuary. The choir was of equal breadth with the nave and aisles, but much shorter, and, at the east end of it, was in form of a chapel; and here stood the high altar, as I take it.

“The cloyster was on the south side of the church, and had an entrance into it at the west end of the south aisle, near to the tower; and another at the east end of the said aisle, near the grand tower. The chapter-house seems to have joined to the east side of the cloister, and the dormitory to have been over the west part of the cloister. West of the cloister, and adjoining, was the prior's apartment, now converted into a farm-house. In a large room above stairs, called now the prior's dining-room, is a curious bow window of stone, consisting of nine pannels.—In the first were the arms of the priory, painted on the glass:—In the second, the arms of the Earl of Arundel, and Earl Warren, quarterly, but now broke and gone.—In the third, Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk; gules, a lion rampant, argent.—Fourth, the red and white rose united, and a crown over it.—Fifth, France and England quarterly.—Sixth, the rose, &c. as above.—Seventh, Earl Warren's arms.—Eighth, quarterly, the Earl of Arundel in the first and fourth quarters; and in the second and third, Matrevs,

trevers, fable, fretty, or, and Fitz Alane, Baron of Clun, P. fefs, azure and argent, quarterly.—Ninth, argent, a crofs compony, or and azure, between twelve crofs crofslets, fiché, fable; the priory arms as I take it, and thefe letters I. W. joined together by a knot, and under it, SPITV PRINCIPALI CONFIRMA ME. By this it appears that this window was built by John Winchelfey, Prior, in the reign of Henry VII. or VIII. Afterwards it might be converted into a dining-room; but that it was originally a large chapel, and this room was only the weft end of it, is apparent: it extended to the fouth tower of the church, where at the eaft end of it is a large window, as in a chapel, and a ftep, or afcent here, as to an altar; and on the fouth wall, near to this afcent, is an arched covered feat of ftone, rifing in form of a pyramid, with the fhield of the Earl Warren alone: which teftifies it to be an antique pile, built in their time, before the patronage of the priory came to the Earls of Arundel; and at the north-eaft corner, near to the altar-piece, is a door-place with a ftone arch; and here was a ftone ftair-cafe, which led down into the cloifter.

“ In another room was, a few years paft, in a window, the broken portraiture of one of the Earls of Arundel, in armour, with a broad-fword in his hand; and on his furcoat the arms of Arundel, Matrevers, and Clun, as above, and part of the legend, *My truſt ys* ———; alfo, on a chapeau, gules, an oaken flip, vert, acorned, or. The fcite of this priory took in feveral acres. The grand entrance was north of the priory church, where is now ftanding a large and ftately gate-houfe of free-ftone. Over the arch, as you enter, are the arms of the Earl Warren of Arundel, and Earl Warren, quarterly, France and England, and thoſe of the priory.

“The whole scite was enclosed with a lofty stone wall, good part of which is still standing.”

*Lynn*, or *Len Regis*, one hundred and two miles from London, is a rich, ancient, and populous town, situate at the mouth of the river Ouse, where it falls into the sea, after having received several lesser rivers, which gives it the greatest inland navigation of any port in England, London excepted. These navigable rivers affording the merchants of Lynn an opportunity to supply about six counties wholly, and three counties in part, with their goods, especially coals; to wit, by the little Ouse they send their goods to Brandon and Thetford; by the Lake to Meldon-hall, Barton-mills, and St. Edmund's Bury; by the river Cam to Cambridge; by the great Ouse itself to Ely, to St. Ives, to St. Neot's, to Barford-bridge, and to Bedford: by the river Nyne to Peterborough; by the drains and washes to Wisbich, to Spalding, Market-deeping, and Stamford; besides the several counties into which these goods are conveyed by land-carriage from the places where the navigation of these rivers ends. Great quantities of wines are imported here, and their trade to Norway and the Baltic Sea is also as great in proportion as the rest of their navigable trade.

It was a borough by proscription before King John, who in gratitude, because it sided with him against the Barons, made it a free borough, with large privileges; appointed them a Provost; gave them a large silver cup, with a cover, doubly gilt and enamelled, weight about eighty ounces, and four large silver maces that are carried before the mayor. They likewise boast of his having given the corporation sword, which is also borne before the mayor; but Dr. Gibson says it was given by King Henry VIII. who after the town came into his hands, by exchange with the Bishop of Norwich,  
called

called it King's Lynn, whereas before it was called Bishop's Lynn; and he takes notice of a paper of Sir Henry Spelman's, dated September 15, 1630, wherein Sir Henry was assured by Mr. Kennet, the town-clerk, that one Cook, the sword-bearer, did about fifty years before, get an inscription fraudulently engraven on the hilt, signifying that it was the present of King John. The Doctor adds, that King Henry III. made it a mayor-town for its serving him against the Barons.

This town has been honoured with fifteen royal charters, and is governed by a mayor, high-steward, twelve aldermen, a recorder, under-steward, and eighteen common-councilmen.

It has been formerly of exceeding strength, and it is encompassed with a deep trench, walled almost round; it is computed to contain about two thousand, four hundred houses, and is divided by four rivulets, arched over with fifteen bridges. It extends along the east side of the river, which is about as broad here as the Thames above London-bridge, and in high spring tides rises above twenty feet perpendicular. The harbour is safe when ships are entered in it, but difficult to come at, by reason of the many flats and shoals in the passage: however they are well buoyed, and there are always good pilots ready for the assistance of strangers, so that the miscarriages are few; it is defended by St. Ann's-fort, with a platform of twelve large guns; and towards the land, besides the wall, there are nine regular bastions, and a ditch nearly in the form of a circle, which make it above half a mile in breadth. The town is so ancient as to be supposed the same with *Maiden Bower*.

Its most remarkable places and edifices are as follow: St. Margaret's church, the Town-hall, Bridewell, the Custom-house, and the Exchange; the Market-cross, St. Nicholas'-chapel, All Saints-church



church, the Free-school, the Hospitals, the statue of King James II. King John's sword and cup, the common Staith yards, the Lady's mount, the public Library, the King's Staith-yard, &c. Of which briefly in their order; and first of St. Margaret's church.

The old church, which was formerly an abbey, was greatly damaged by a storm of wind in September 1741, when its spire, 193 feet high, being blown down, quite beat in the body of the church: it has since been rebuilt, towards which his late Majesty George II. was pleased to give one thousand pounds, and the Earl of Orford five hundred pounds. It is now one of the largest parochial churches in England, and is adorned with a very fair and high lantern, covered with lead, containing the clock bell, which may be heard all over the town. Its height is one hundred and thirty-two feet. At the west-end stands a stone tower, eighty-two feet high; and facing the street a moon-dial, designed to tell the increase and decrease of that planet, with the exact hour of the day: it moves by clock-work. Over the tower is a spire one hundred and ninety-three feet high, in form of a pyramid; near to which is the Bell-tower, built of free-stone, eighty-six feet high, containing a ring of eight bells. In this church is kept the bishop's court, when he comes hither on his visitation.

The Town-house, called Trinity-hall, is an ancient and noble building, which makes a fine appearance.

Adjoining to it is the house of correction, called Bridewell, with apartments proper for the reception of such as are put there, who beat and dress hemp during their confinement.

The exchange is a fair structure of free-stone, with two orders of columns, situated in the middle of the town, and built at the expence of Sir John  
Turner,

Turner, Knight; and within it is the custom-house, containing several apartments.

The market-house is a new edifice of free-stone, in the modern taste, seventy feet high, erected on four steps, neatly adorned with statues, and other ornaments; with an inscription, giving an account of its former condition, and present rebuilding.

St. Nicholas's chapel is very antient, and stands at the north end of the town. It is an appendage to St. Margaret's, and is esteemed one of the fairest and largest religious fabrics in England; it has a bell-tower of free-stone, and a pyramidical octangular spire over it, both which together are an hundred and seventy feet from the ground.

All-Saints church, in South-Lynn, belonging formerly to the Carmelite and White Friars, on the ruins of whose monastery it is built. Though not large, it is neat, solid and regular, in the form of a cross, within a church-yard well walled in.

On the north side of St. Margaret's church-yard is the free-school, a strong and beautiful building.

The only fabric formerly belonging to any religious order, now standing, is the Grey Friars' steeple, a noted sea-mark; which was repaired and amended out of the ruins of a demolished chapel, in the year 1539. It may not be amiss to mention here a remarkable and laudable order, that was made in the year 1588. That on every first Monday in the month, there should be a meeting of the mayor, aldermen, some of the common-council, and the preachers, in order to settle peace and quietness between man and man, and to decide all manner of controversies: this was called, "The feast of reconciliation."

In the parish of All Saints is a small hospital for four poor men to live rent-free. St Mary Magdalen's hospital, founded in the reign of King Stephen, for a prior, and twelve brethren and sisters,

continued

continued in a flourishing condition about four hundred years; and devolved to the crown, at the making the statute for dissolution of religious houses in the reign of Edward VI. in whose time it was robbed, and almost levelled with the ground, by Kett's mutinneers, at their return from their frustrated attempt to surprize Lynn: so that it remained destitute of brethren and sisters, except some poor people, whom the mayor and burgessees maintained, with design to support the ancient hospital, till King James I. upon petitioning restored them their lands, granted them many privileges, and incorporated them; but in the year 1643, it was a second time destroyed by fire, by the Earl of Manchester's forces, when they besieged Lynn, then standing out for the King. In the year 1649, the corporation rebuilt it very commodiously, as at present, with two courts, a chapel, and convenient apartments for the master, brethren, and sisters, and several inscriptions commemorating the late disaster. It is now committed to the care of two of the elder aldermen, chosen for that purpose by the other governors.

In the great market-place is a statue of King James II. erected in the year 1686, with an inscription, that may serve for a satire on the undue compliments which are frequently paid to princes, during the time of their prosperity. It stands on a pedestal, which has several embellishments, and is inclosed within a palisade of iron. The inscription is as follows:

Non immemor  
Quantum divinis invictiss. Principis  
J A C O B I II,  
Virtutibus debeat,  
Hanc Regiæ Majestatis Effigiem,  
Æternum

Æternum Fidei et Obsequii

Mònumentum, erexit

S. P. Q. L.

Anno Salutis 1686.

In English thus :

The Aldermen and Common-council of Lynn, not forgetting how much they owe to the divine virtues of the invincible King James II. as a lasting monument of their faith and loyalty, have erected this statue of his Royal Majesty, Anno 1686.

In 1682, an old ruinous building, which was once a chapel, was, by the corporation, and other inhabitants, made a public receptacle for poor children to learn to spin wool ; here they are also taught to read. It is now by act of parliament settled and vested in the guardians of the poor.

The entrance into the common Staith-yard from the Tuesday market, is by two large gate-ways, with habitable rooms over them. It is a beautiful spacious square area, with a commodious quay, or wharf, surrounded with warehouses and granneries for all sorts of merchandize, with capacious vaults.

The King's Staith-yard is a very handsome square, with brick buildings fronting each gate-way ; in the centre of which stands the statue of King James I. in a niche fronting the west. Here the greatest part of imported wines are landed, as it has a convenient quay and large wine-vaults.

The greatest inconvenience of Lynn is the great want of fresh-water springs within the town ; with which element, however, they are supplied from a river running by Gaywood, and by leaden pipes from Middleton and Mintling.

The



The *Lady's Mount*, or *Red Mount*, is a ruinous pile, which stands at a small distance from the town, wherein was formerly a chapel dedicated to Blessed Virgin; it was formerly a receptacle for pilgrims travelling this way towards the celebrated convent of Our Lady at Walsingham.

The Library at St. Nicholas was erected by a voluntary subscription of several hundred pounds; to which the late Lord Viscount Townshend, (who took his title of Baron from this town) Sir Robert Walpole, Sir Charles Turner, and Robert Britiffe, deceased, were considerable benefactors. There is also another library at St. Margaret's, to which the late Thomas Thurstin, D. D. President of St. John's College, Cambridge, bequeathed all his books; and also left an exhibition of six pounds a year to a poor scholar who should go from the grammar-school to St. John's-college, in Cambridge; and forty shillings yearly towards the clothing three of the poorest inhabitants of Gaywood.

This town sends two members to parliament.

There is a passage from here into the fen country by boats, over the famous washes, into Lincolnshire; but it is advisable never to venture without a guide, as it is exceedingly dangerous, and many persons have been lost through their rashness and imprudence, by venturing at improper times, and without guides.

*Lytcham*, in Lynn channel, is a creek dependant upon that port, having six sail of vessels, and is in a very thriving way. The corn and malt trade, to Holland particularly, has been a great means of preserving these ports from declining, and some of them almost expiring.

Another road branches off at Newmarket, and passing through the western part of Suffolk, enters this county at

*Tbetford,*

*Thetford*, eighty miles from London. For a particular account of this antient town, we are indebted to a very accurate correspondent, who has favoured us with the following historical and descriptive particulars.

“ *Thetford*, on account of its ancient extent and grandeur, demands our particular notice. It was a large and populous city at the time the Romans conquered Britain; and afterwards called by them *Sitomagus*. It appears from the most authentic records of antiquity, that this city was originally founded by the antient *Sinones*, a colony from Gaul, long before the christian æra. In a manuscript history, written by John Brame, a monk of this place, (which is now kept in Benner’s College, Cambridge) we find that one Rond, a valliant man of *Thetford*, who lived in the time of *Vortigern*, King of the ancient Britons, seeing the Romans withdrawn, and his Sovereign engaged in defending a distant part of the kingdom against the Picts, usurped the supreme government of the city, and became king thereof.

“ In the year 575, *Uffa*, one of the Saxon Kings, settled here, and greatly encreased the prosperity and grandeur of the city; and it was under his reign that its name was changed to *Thetford*. But when the Danes ravaged the East Angles, and laid waste the country, the city became a prey to these barbarians, and lost much of its ancient splendor. King *Ethelbert* was murdered here; and from that time *Thetford* was alternately subject to the Mercians, the West Saxons, and the men of Kent, till *Edmund the Martyr* gained its government.

“ In the year 865, the Danish army sat down before it, under *Ingwar* and *Ubba*, two of their most powerful chieftains; and having been made acquainted with the strength and riches of the

G g

city,

city, for forty years past, were determined to conquer it; the more easily to effect which, they first threw up the present hill, commonly called the Castle-hill, and encamped in the fortifications around it, which so terrified the inhabitants that they were glad to make peace: but in the year 870, the Danes returned, and drove King Edmund from this royal seat, murdered the inhabitants, and burnt the city. This prodigious hill or mount, made chiefly of chalk, is the largest and highest *made* hill in the kingdom; being much higher than the tops of any of the steeples now standing. It had three ramparts surrounding it, with deep ditches around; but the works on the south side have been levelled by degrees, as the present Market-street was built. On the top of this hill is a hollow, which will hold five or six hundred men; round which some trees were planted about twenty years since, but they do not appear to be in a thriving state. Its scite is owned by the Duke of Norfolk, being part of the Lordship of Thetford: the remaining part of the fortifications contains about thirteen acres. Previous to its destruction by the Danes, this city lay mostly on the Suffolk side of the river Ouse, but in the year 879, Athelstan came with his Danes, and settled here, and began to rebuild it, changing its ancient scite to the Norfolk side of the river; and restored it to its ancient grandeur. In this state it continued till the year 1012, when Turkil, one of the principal leaders of the Danish ravagers took possession of the city, and became its chief governor, tyrannizing over the inhabitants in the most cruel and savage manner.

In King Edward the Confessors days, this flourishing city became a hundred by itself; its bounds on the Norfolk side of the river were two miles in length,

length, and one in breadth; and on the Suffolk side about a mile.

“ In the year 1070, Arfast, Chaplain to William the Conqueror, was made Bishop, and removed the see from Elmham to Thetford. The mother church was dedicated to St. Mary, and stood on the south side the river, near the great bridge, where the free-school and house belonging to the master of the hospital now stands.

“ The ruins of this antient structure proclaims it to have been a noble and magnificent edifice, fit for the cathedral of such a see, and affects the mind of the beholder with a pensive pleasing melancholy, by evincing the ravages of time, and the instability of human things. In Edward the Third's time there were twenty parish churches, two frieries, six hospitals, a monastery, out of the ruins of which, the farm-house, called the Place, is now built, a nunnery, now used as a barn, the walls being intire; three priories and a mint. Some centuries since, the Bishop's see was removed to Norwich, since which, and the dissolution of religious houses in Henry the Eighth's time, it has gradually decayed both in its extent and grandeur.

“ It now remains to give some account of this town in its present state:—It is still large, consisting of three parishes; two on the Norfolk, and one on the Suffolk side of the river; being near a mile in length from the Castle-yard eastward, to the farm called the Channings, west of the town, which was erected out of the ruins of St. John's church, part of the steeple of which is still standing. Here are about twenty streets and lanes, but most of them very irregularly built. Here is a good guild-hall and shire-house, the Lent assizes for the county of Norfolk being held here.

“ This town is a corporation, consisting of a mayor, recorder, sword and mace bearers, twelve aldermen,



aldermen, and twenty common-council. It is also a borough, and sends two members to parliament.

"Notwithstanding this town is very irregularly built, there are many good houses and some very elegant gardens. The great road from Norwich to London runs across this town, and there are several good inns. The situation of this place is delightful; it lying on a gentle descent, on the south-west side of a hill, on the river Ouse, (which is navigable up to the town) in a fine champaign country. The air is fine and healthy, and here is a considerable trade carried on in corn, coals, iron, deals, paper and reeds.

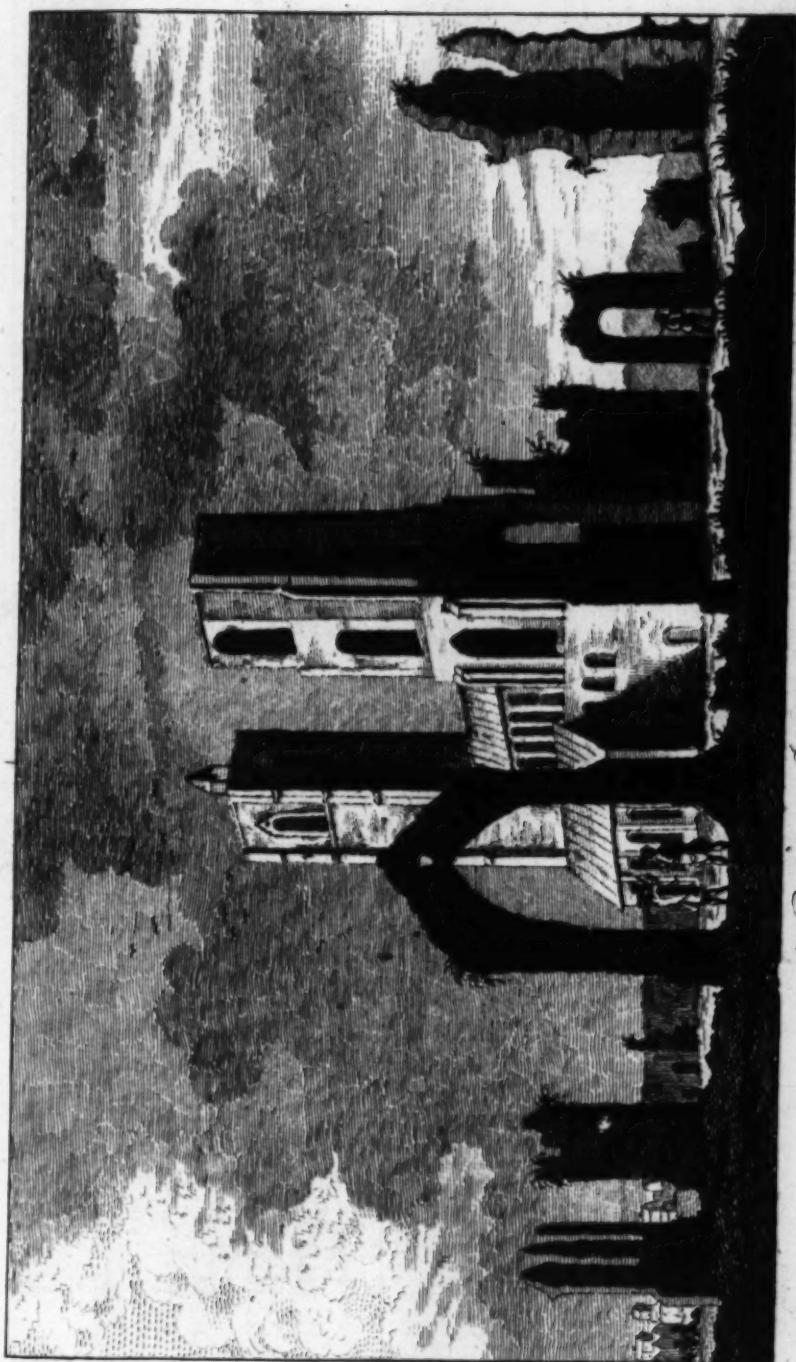
"On the north-west side of the town are some very fine ruins of excellent workmanship, and grotesque appearance; and the ground on all sides of the town is intersected with low stone walls, grassy hillocks, and the foundations of its ancient structures, the vestiges of many of which are still visible, and afford a subject of enquiry and entertainment to the curious naturalist. Many Roman and other ancient coins have been found here.

"In some meads, near the old monastery, is a mineral spring, the waters of which were about thirty years since in some repute; but at present are little regarded.

"In approaching this town from London, at about two miles distance, it has a fine appearance; laying like an amphitheatre before you, with the hill on the right hand, and the fine old ruins full in prospect on the left.

"At about three miles to the right is *Euston-Lodge*, the magnificent seat of the Duke of Grafton, whose delightful park and pleasure gardens are near ten miles round; and adorned with every decoration that art and nature can supply."

*Wyndham,*



*Windham Priory, Norfolk.*



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*Wyndbam*, or *Wymondbam*, ninety-nine miles and three quarters from London, is but a little town, but the inhabitants, both old and young, are generally employed in making both spiggots and fosssets, spiggots, spoons and the like mean wooden ware. It has had the honour of giving name to the flourishing family of Windhams. On the other hand, it is as infamous for the birth of those execrable rebels, the Ketts, who so much harrassed this country in the reign of King Edward VI. one of them, Ket the Tanner, was hanged on the highest steeple of this church, by order of Sir William Windham, then sheriff of Norfolk. A priory was founded here in the reign of King Henry I. which was a cell to the abbey of St. Alban's: and the son of the founder erected and endowed a free school here. There is a charity school for teaching thirty poor children.

Three miles from Wyndham is *Kimbly-ball*, the seat of Sir Armine Woodhouse, Bart.

*Norwich*, an hundred and nine miles from London, is the capital of the county situate near the river Vensder, or Winsder, and the river Yare, which is navigable from hence to Yarmouth, thirty miles by water. The city is very ancient, and was no doubt of note in the time of the Romans, coins and urns having been dug up. Its name implies a castle or fort to the north, with relation to Castor Bor, four miles south of it, out of the ruins of which this seems to have risen. After the murder of the Danes, in the reign of Etheldred, Swain came with a powerful army to England, razed Exeter to the ground, and sailed with his whole fleet to Norwich, and burnt and wasted the whole city. In 1010, upon the return of the Danes, they settled here and fortified themselves, under Turkil, one of their Earls. In the reign of Canute we read of it as a great fishing town; for  
then



then Alfric the Bishop gave to the abbey of Bury his hugh by Norwich, which paid to it yearly one last of herrings; and in Edward the Confessor's days it had one thousand, three hundred and twenty burgesses, and paid twenty pounds to the King, besides six sextaries\* of honey, a bear and six dogs to bait him. At the drawing up of the survey after the conquest, it paid seventy pounds in weight to the King, five pounds fine to the Queen, and furnished her with an ambling palfrey. Although it suffered much by the insurrection of Ralph Earl of the East Angles, against William the Conqueror, in whose time it was besieged and reduced by famine; yet the damage was abundantly repaired when the the episcopal see was removed hither from Thetford, which was in 1096, when the cathedral see was founded. In the reign of King Stephen it was in a manner rebuilt, and made a corporation. Henry IV. granted them a mayor and two sheriffs, instead of bailiffs, by whom they had before then been governed; and in the centre of the city, near the market-cross, they built a most beautiful town-house. In the year 1348 near fifty-eight thousand persons were carried off here by a pestilence; and in 1507 the city was almost entirely consumed by fire.

This city is situated on the side of a hill, from north to south two miles in length, and one in breadth. It is a wealthy place, and populous, tho' was a stranger to walk through Norwich on ordinary days, he would think it very thinly inhabited; but when he views the streets crouded with people, on a sabbath day, or on public occasions, he would then wonder where such a multitude could dwell. The reason of this difference is, the inhabitants, who are employed in their manufactures, dwell in their garrets, at their looms, in their combing-shops, as they call them

\* A sextary is about a pint and a quarter.

them, twisting mats, and other work houses; almost all the work they are employed in being done within doors.

The castle is ancient and decayed, and now, for many years partly made use of as a goal. It formerly had a flint stone wall, seven miles in circumference, which was finished in 1309, and was then beautified with forty towers, now greatly in ruins. Here are twelve large gates, and six bridges over the river Yare, running thro' this city, called Hefleden, Calfony, Black Friars, Tye-bridge, White Friars, and Bishopsgate bridges: and to repair these bridges, as also the walls and gates, staiths and wharfs, which were become so ruinous that the ordinary revenue of the city was insufficient for that purpose, an act of parliament passed in the year 1725-6, which laid divers tolls and imposts on particular goods and merchandizes brought up the river Yare.

Norwich contains thirty-two parishes and thirty-six churches, exclusive of the cathedral, besides a great number of meeting-houses of all denominations. The cathedral is a noble structure, the roof large and venerable, and of excellent workmanship, adorned with the history of the Bible in divers little images, carved as it were to the life. The choir is spacious; and next to Salisbury and the cupola of St. Paul's, the highest in England. It is above one hundred and five yards from the top of the pinnacle to the pavement of the choir under it. The weather-cock, which stands upon the top-stone, is three quarters of a yard high, and above a yard long. The bishop's palace and the prebends houses, round the close of the cathedral, make a very fine appearance. The other remarkable buildings are the Duke of Norfolk's palace, once reckoned the largest house in England; the castle, before mentioned; the town-hall, in the market-place; the guildhall, formerly the monastery church of the black friars; the

the house of correction, or Bridewell, a beautiful structure, built of square flint-stone, so nicely joined that no mortar can be seen; a lofty market-cross of free-stone, built after the manner of a piazza, beautiful and commodious; the King's school, founded by King Edward VI. for the instruction of boys in grammar learning, to be nominated by the mayor for the time being, with the consent of the majority of aldermen. The other buildings are in general very handsome and lofty, especially about the market-place; and as there were formerly a great number of thatched houses in the bye lanes and streets, an order was made that all that were thereafter new built or covered should be tiled. Some authors have called this an orchard in a city, or a city in an orchard, by reason of the pleasant intermixture of trees and houses.

Here are four hospitals, viz. St. Helen's or *Domus Dei*, as it is called; it was formerly founded for the entertainment of strangers, but King Henry VIII. converted it into an hospital for the poor of the city. Doughley's-hospital consists of sixteen poor men and eight women, all cloathed in purple. The boys and girls hospitals, founded by two several mayors of the city, contain thirty of each, and the boys at a proper age are put out apprentices.

Before we quit this town, it may not be deemed unnecessary to say a few words on the worsted manufacture, for which this city has so long been famous. It was first brought hither by the Flemings, in the reign of Edward III. and afterwards improved by the Dutch, who fled from the Duke D'Alva's bloody persecution, and being settled here by Queen Elizabeth taught the inhabitants to make great variety of worsted stuffs, bays, serges, shalloons, &c. in which they carry on a vast trade both at home and abroad, and are lately come to weave druggets, crapes, and other curious stuffs, of which it is said  
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this city sends to the value of no less than an hundred thousand pounds a year. All hands are daily employed, and even children earn their bread in this manufacture. Eight wardens of the worsted weavers, four out of the city, and four out of the adjacent county, are annually chose and sworn to take care that there be no frauds in the spinning, weaving, or dying the said stuffs. Here is another company of woollen manufactures, called the Russia-company, who have a seat in the town-hall, with this inscription, "Fidelitas artes Alit." The seat of the other company, under the wardens, has this inscription, "Worsted reformed." The weavers here employ all the country round in spinning yarn for them, and also use many thousand packs of yarn which they receive from other counties, even as far as Yorkshire and Westmoreland. A calculation was sometime ago made from the number of looms then at work in this city only, that there were not less than one hundred and twenty thousand people employed in their manufacture of wollen, silk, &c. in and about this city. There is a stocking manufacture also here, which has been computed at sixty thousand pounds a year.

*Aleshoun*, twelve miles from Norwich, is a town noted for knitters, and is pretty populous. Here is a court kept for the duchy of Lancaster, the manor having by Edward III. been granted to John of Gaunt Duke of Lancaster. Near it is Blickling, the seat of the Earl of Buckingham: also Motterton, the seat of Lord Walpole, from whence he takes the title of Baron.

Not far from Aleshoun is

*Worsted*, noted for the invention and twisting of yarn and thread, so called from this place. Here is also a manufacture of worsted stuffs and stockings, both knit and wove.

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Returning



Returning again to the road to Lynn, another branch passes off from it at Brunden, and proceeds to Wells; in the way to which we meet with

*Swaffham*, ninety-four miles from London. Its air is highly commended by the physicians, and it has a very splendid church, the south aisle of which it is said, was built by a travelling pedlar, and is almost as famous for spurs as Rippen in Yorkshire.

On the left of this road, about fourteen miles beyond Swaffham, is Rainham, the seat of Lord Townshend, the house is rather plain and commodious than magnificent; but the situation is beautiful, with a fine park and water, in the midst of a country rich and finely cultivated. In the house is a fine picture of Belisarius, by Salvator Rosa.

A few miles still farther to the left is Houghton, the celebrated seat of the Earl of Orford, built by Sir Robert Walpole. On approaching to this seat, the beautiful and magnificent plantations and the openings which are judiciously left, have a fine effect. The apartments at Houghton-hall are fitted up in the most magnificent taste; the hall noble, but rather badly proportioned. Here is a fine selection of capital pictures, which would take too much of our room to mention severally; we shall therefore refer our readers to a complete catalogue of them, published by the ingenious Mr. Horace Walpole. The following are particularly fine:

David and Abishag, by Vandeuverf.

Consultation of the Elders, by Guido.

Virgin and Child, Dominichino.

Prodigal Son, by Salvator Rosa.

Cocles, by Molu.

Virgin teaching the boy Jesus to read, by Carlo Maratt.

Ruben's wife, by Rembrandt.

Ditto, by Vandyke.

Mary

Mary Magdalen washing our Saviour's feet, by Rubens.

Usurer and his wife, by Quin Matsis.

*Fakenham*, one hundred and ten miles and an half from London, has nothing worthy of our notice, except its having formerly been noted for its salt-pits.

*Walsingham*, an hundred and sixteen miles from London, is an ancient town, famous for the ruins of a monastery, founded about four hundred years before the dissolution, by the lady of the manor, which had a shrine of the Virgin Mary, almost as much frequented at one time as Thomas à Becket's at Canterbury; and here are two wells which still retain the name. Henry VIII. is said to have walked barefooted from Balsbam, not far off to this monastery, and carried a rich necklace as a present to the Lady of Walsingham; though he soon after pulled the monastery down, and seized upon the riches, which, according to Erasmus, were very great, for it must be observed, that no person was looked upon as pious and religious, who had not made a visit to the Lady of Walsingham. The banks near the town, towards the sea side, are supposed to have been the burial place of the Danes and Saxons, after their many battles in this neighbourhood. The soil round about is noted for producing good saffron, as well as southern-wood.

*Wells*, an hundred and twenty-one miles from London, is a member of the port of Lynn; the inhabitants have at present about thirty vessels, some are upwards of an hundred tons; and besides there are a few fishing-boats, employing in the whole about two hundred men. This place gives evident marks of its having been a place of greater consequence than at present.

Not far distant from Wells, is

*Holkham*,

*Holkham*, the celebrated seat of the Countess of Leicester, built by the late Earl.—We cannot be too minute in our description of this delightful spot.—On approaching it from the south, the first objects that strike the eye, are a few small clumps of trees, which just catch your attention, and give you warning of an approach: they sketch out the way to the triumphal arch, under which the road runs. Thich structure is in a pleasing taste, and finished in a very elegant manner; it is extremely light, and the white flint rustics have a good effect. A narrow plantation on each side a broad vista, leads from hence to the obelisk, at the distance of a mile and an half. At the bottom of the hill on which the obelisk stands, are the two porters lodges, small, but very neat structures. Rising with the hill, you approach the obelisk, through a fine plantation; and nothing can be attended with a better effect, than the vistas opening at once. There are eight. 1. To the south from the front of the house. 2. To *Holkham-church*, on the top of a steep hill, covered with wood; a most beautiful object. 3. To the town of *Wells*, a parcel of scattered houses appearing in the wood. 4. To the triumphal arch:—the rest to distant plantations. The temple at *Holkam* commands exceedingly beautiful objects; amongst others, *Wells church*.—The lake in the park, which is seen from hence through some spreading trees in a most picturesque manner.—A planted hill.—The sea—and the rest distant plantations.

“ The house may be said to consist of five quadrangles, the centre, and the four wings. The portico is in a fine taste, and the Corinthian pillars beautifully proportioned. This central front, in every respect that can be named, appears all lightness and proportion; but when you advance near, you do not find an entrance to the house; there  
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are no stairs up to the portico; and this circumstance, after so fine an approach, and so long seeing the portico, and expecting it to be the entrance, becomes a disappointment, and is a fault in the building.

“ The apartments of the house are exceedingly convenient; the hall is called a cube of forty-eight feet; eighteen very large and magnificent Corinthian pillars surround it, having their pedestals rested on a marble passage, eight or ten feet higher than the ground: the area at bottom is an oblong, walled in with Derbyshire marble, and upon the wall are the pillars, six in a line on each side, and six in front in a semi-circle around a flight of steps up to the saloon door. The passage or gallery, as it may be called, runs around these pillars, and both together take up so much room that proportion is hurt; to look from it into the area, it appears like a bath.—The hall is entirely of Derbyshire marble.

“ The saloon is forty-two feet by twenty-seven, a proportion much condemned, but it is not displeasing.—This saloon is hung with crimson cassoy; the pier glasses small, on account of the narrowness of the piers, each against the pillar of the portico, but in a good taste. The rooms to the left of the saloon are, first, a drawing-room thirty-three by twenty-two, hung with crimson cassoy. The pier-glasses very large and exceedingly elegant: the agate tables beautiful. From thence we entered the landscape room, which is a dressing-room to the state bed-chamber; it is twenty-four by twenty-two, hung with crimson damask; a passage leads to the anti-room of the chapel, and then into the state-gallery. The walls are of Derbyshire marble; the altar and all the decorations in a just taste. Returning to the landscape room, you pass into the state bed-chamber, thirty by twenty-four, which



is fitted up in a very pleasing taste. It is hung with French tapestry, except between the piers, which is by Mr. Saunders, of Soho-square; the colours of the whole brilliant. The bed is of cut velvet, upon a white sattin ground, and as it appears in common, is a handsome gilt settee, under a canopy. The chimney-piece beautiful; pellicans white marble. The next apartment is Lady Leicester's, consisting of a bed-chamber, dressing-room, closet with books, and a smaller one. The bed-chamber twenty-four by twenty-two, purple damask, French chairs of velvet tapestry: the chimney-piece a bass. rel. of white marble polished. The dressing-room twenty-eight by twenty-four, hung with blue damask.

On the other side of the saloon, you enter another drawing-room, thirty-three by twenty-two, hung with a crimson flowered velvet. The glasses, tables, and chimney-pieces are worthy attention. From this you come to the statue gallery; one of the most beautiful rooms to be seen: the dimensions are to the eye proportion itself—nothing offends the most criticising. It consists of a middle part seventy feet by twenty-two, and at each end an octagon of twenty-two, open to the centre by an arch; in one are compartments with books, and in the other statues: those in the principal part of the gallery stand in niches in the wall, along one side of the room, on each side the chimney-piece. Observe in particular the Diana; the figure is extremely fine, and the arms inimitably turned. The Venus in wet drapery is likewise exquisite; nothing can exceed the manner in which the form of the limbs is seen through the clothing. The slabs are fine; the cieling the only plain one in the house, (they are gilt fret-work and mosaic) which may be thought a mark of propriety.

“ The

“ The entrance, already mentioned, from the drawing-room, is in one octagon, and out of the other opens the door into the dining-room, a cube of twenty-eight feet, with a large recess for the side-board, and two chimney-pieces, very pleasing; one a sow and pigs and wolf; the other a bear and bee-hives, finely done in white marble; the nose of the sow was broke off by a too common misapplication of sense, *feeling* instead of *seeing*; John, to an object of sight, presents his fist or his horse-whip. Returning into the statue gallery, one octagon leads into the stranger's wing, and the other to the late Earl's apartment: consisting of, 1. The anti-room. 2. His lordship's dressing-room. 3. The library, fifty by twenty-one. 4. Lady Leicester's dressing-room. 5. The bed-chamber. 6. A closet with books. The rooms are about twenty-two by twenty. The strangers wing consists of anti-chamber, dressing-room, bed-chamber, closet with books, bed-chamber, dressing-room, bed-chamber, dressing-room. The fitting up of the whole house, in all particulars, not mentioned, is in a beautiful taste, the Venetian windows beyond any I have seen; ornamented with magnificent pillars, gilt and carved.

The following are the principal pictures:

Cignani. Joseph and Potiphar's wife; a good piece.

P. Pietris. Virgin and child.

Poussin. Two large landscapes.

A smaller one.

Three others in the landscape room; fine.

Two others.

Vandyke. Duke of Aremberg; a very fine piece.

P. Cortona, Coriolanus: The figure of the old man kneeling before Coriolanus, and hiding his face with his hands, is extremely fine; but the figure

figure of Coriolanus himself without dignity, haughtiness, or any great expression. The wife leading her two children, and smiling on them is a figure of no expression: the colouring, however, and the back ground are good; the disposition indifferent.

Perseus and Andromeda: Andromeda's figure a very good one, and the whole piece well coloured.

Procochiano. Death of Lucretia; the lights and shades bad.

Quintus Cincinnatus.

Guido. Joseph and Potiphar's wife: none of this painter's bright and glowing manner. The colouring hard and disagreeable.

A saint's head.

Cupid.

Assumption: bad.

Rubens. Flight into Egypt. A good picture, but the figures disagreeable, especially Mary's, who is a female mountain. The drawing appears to be indifferent.

Birds.

Titian. Venus; the colouring gone off, hard and disagreeable.

Venetian Lady; colours gone.

Woman's head; ditto

Dominichino. Lot and his daughters; dark and disagreeable.

Abraham and Isaac, (in the landscape room) rather in a dark stile.

Carlo Maratt. A landscape; not in his bright manner.

Judith and Holophernes; dark.

Madona, reading

Apollo and Daphne.

Magdalen and angel.

Vernet. Two views of a storm; both exceeding fine.

Salvator

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- Salvator Rosa. A rock ; very fine.  
 F. Bolonese. A rock.  
 St. John Baptist.  
 Onionte. Two landscapes.  
 L. Giordano. St. John preaching.  
 Claud. Loraine. Landscapes ; river and bridge ;  
 Pegasus.  
 Argus.  
 Apollo keeping sheep  
 Three others.  
 Repose in Egypt.  
 In these landscapes Claud's elegant genius shines  
 with uncommon lustre.  
 Lucatelli. Two landscapes.  
 Hamilton. Jupiter and Juno ; colouring bad ;  
 her neck and face the best.  
 An. Carrach. Polypheme and Galatea ; the draw-  
 ing strong and fine.  
 Conca. Two altar-pieces ; indifferent colouring.  
 Albano. Holy family.  
 P. Laura. Two pieces of boys and flowers.  
 Raphael. Madona and child ; drawing and co-  
 louring very fine.  
 Holy family : But *quere* of both to the connois-  
 seurs in originality.  
 Parmegiano. Woman in a cave ; the face  
 very expressive, extremely delicate, finely turned,  
 and the drapery exquisite, displaying the roundness  
 of the limbs through it in the happiest taste.  
 P. Veronese. Mary Magdalen, washing our Sa-  
 viour's feet.  
 Bassan. Christ carrying the cross.  
 Lanfranco. Youth and old age, two pieces,  
 The old man very fine.  
 Angel appearing to Joseph in a dream ; dark  
 stile.  
 And. Sacchi. Abraham, Ishmael, &c.  
 I i Cypriani

Cypriani. St. Anne, and St. Cecilia. The colouring very fine ; the attitudes admirable, and the drapery graceful.

“ The object most striking, on the north side of the park, is the lake, which is of great extent ; the shore is very bold, all covered with wood, to a great height, and on the top stands the church. The plantations in general are sketched with great taste : in the number of acres many exceed them ; but they appear to various points of view, infinitely more considerable than they really are. At the north entrance into the park, they are grand ; you look full upon the house with a very noble back ground of wood ; the obelisk just above the centre ; with an extent of plantation on each side that renders the view really magnificent. Nothing can be more beautiful than that from the church ; the house appears in the midst of an amphitheatre of wood, the plantations rising one above another. Another point of view which deserves attention, is the vale on the east side of the park. The north plantation stretches away to the right, with vast magnificence, the south woods to the left, and joining in the front, form an extent that has a noble effect.”\*

The *Seven Burnhams*, are so many small towns, not far from Wells, and, like that, each is employed in the Holland trade. That called Burnham-Market has a harbour. Burnham-Depdals is a village on the sea-shore, famous for its salt-marshes, which are some advantage to the sheep. On the shore are many little hills, supposed to be the tombs of the Saxons and Danes killed hereabouts.

*Burnham Overy*, is accounted a creek to Wells, and is a little growing place, having six vessels belonging to it. But *Brancaſto*, which is very near, and is also a creek to Wells, is now, and was formerly, much superior to it. This, according to the

\* Young.

the best and most accurate critics, was the Roman station, called Branodunum, and was the head quarters of the Dalmatian horse, posted here under the command of the Count of the Saxon shore, for the protection of the country. This opinion is greatly supported by a number of concurring circumstances. The name implies a camp, or fortress, seated on a hill, overlooking the sea; and there have been coins, urns, and other antiquities, frequently found in the neighbourhood; but what is most to be relied on, is the admirable situation of the place at the elbow, where the coast runs away south, and where the province was exposed to the depredations of pirates, dreaded in those days, tho' unheard of in ours.

Another branch from the Lynn road turns off at Brandon, and passes through.

*Watton*, ninety miles and a quarter from London. It stands on the edge of that open part of the county called Filand. Great quantities of butter are sent from hence to Downham-bridge, from whence the factors send it to London by water. The church is only twenty yards long, eleven broad; and the steeple, which has three large bells, is round at bottom and octangular at top. A dreadful fire happened here on the 25th of April, 1673, which consumed above sixty houses, besides out-houses, &c. to the damage of seven thousand four hundred and fifty pounds, and goods to the value of two thousand six hundred and sixty pounds, for which a brief was granted to gather throughout England till the 20th of September, 1675.

*Repeham*, an hundred and nine miles and an half from London, is noted for formerly having three churches in one church-yard, belonging to as many lordships; viz. Repeham, Huckford, and Whitwell; but they have been long since demolished, and the ruins of only one of them left. The chief trade



trade of this town is in malt, of which great quantities are sold in its market.

*Cromer*, an hundred and twenty-seven miles and a quarter from London, is situated on the shore of a very dangerous coast. It was formerly a much larger town than at present, and had two parish-churches, one of which, together with many of the houses, was swallowed up by an inundation of the sea. It is of very little note, except for good lobsters, which are taken on this coast, and carried to Norwich, and in such great quantities too, as to be conveyed by sea to London.

At *Gimingham*, not far from *Cromer*, is still preserved the ancient tenure by soccage, that is, instead of money, the tenant pays his rent by so many days labour in husbandry, or other service.

They have a rhiming proverb here, being the names of this and other parishes, lying close together.

*Gimingham*, *Trimmingham*, *Knapton* and *Trunch*, *North Reps*, and *South Reps*, are all of a bunch.

*Hingham*, ninety-seven miles and an half from London, had the misfortune to be burnt down, but is since rebuilt in a much handsomer manner, and the people are so genteel and fashionable, that it is called by their neighbours *Little London*.

*Holt*, is only noted for giving two Lord Mayors of the name of *Gresham* (who were brothers) to London, in 1537 and 1547.

*Gresham*, not far from *Cromer*, gave birth to the generous founder of the Royal Exchange and *Gresham College*, London.

*Great Yarmouth*, an hundred and twenty-three miles from London, is situate on the south-east part of the county, at the mouth of the river *Yare*. It is a very ancient town, and seems to have risen out of

of the ruins of the old Garonium; though this town is not so large as Norwich, it is greatly superior to it for situation, wealth and traffic; but they are confined from making it more extensive, being precluded from any more buildings on the south and west sides by the river, and on the east side by the sea, so that there is no room but on the north end, without the gate; and there the land is not very agreeable: but had they had a larger space within the gates, there would before this time have been many spacious streets of buildings erected, as is done in some other capital towns in England.

The situation of this town is very advantageous to it, on a peninsula between the river Yare and the sea; the two last lying parallel to one another, and the town in the middle. The river lies on the west side of the town, and being grown very large and deep, by receiving all the rivers on this side of the county, forms the haven; and the town facing to the west also, and open to the river, makes the finest quay in England, if not in Europe, at least equalling that of Marseilles itself.

The ships ride here so close (as it were, keeping up one another, with their heads fast on shore) that, for half a mile together, they go across the stream with their bowsprits over the land, their bows or heads touching the very wharf; so that one may walk from ship to ship as on a floating bridge, all along by the shore side. The quay reaching from the draw-bridge almost to the south gate, is so spacious and wide, that in some places it is near an hundred yards from the houses to the wharf. In this pleasant and agreeable range of houses are some magnificent buildings, and, among the rest, the custom-house and town-hall; and some merchants houses, which look like little palaces, rather than the dwelling-houses of private men. People are  
carried

carried here all over the town, and from the sea side for six-pence, in what they call a coach, but it is only a wheel-barrow drawn by one horse, without any covering.

This town is not only of great note for its coal trade, and its great commerce to France, Holland and the East seas; but particularly for its herring-fishery, which makes it the greatest town of trade, except Hull, on all the East coast of England; for besides all its other commerce, it has the sole trade of red-herrings, i. e. the whole herring-fishery of the East coast of England: where, including the little town of Leostoff, fifty thousand barrels, which some magnify to forty thousand lasts,\* containing no less than forty millions, of red herrings, are generally taken and cured in a year. The red-herrings are proverbially called here, *Yarmouth Capons*.

The fishing fair begins here on Michaelmas-day, when, it is said, above an hundred and ten barks and fishing vessels may be seen coming up the river, all laden with herrings, taken the night before; besides which, great quantities are brought on shore on the Dean, (i. e. the sea side of the town) by open boats, which they call *Cobles*,† and which often bring in two or three lasts of fish at a time. The barks often bring in ten lasts each.

The fair lasts till the end of October, by which time the herrings draw off to sea, shoot their spawn, and are no more fit for merchants business; at least not those taken hereabouts.

The town is bound by its charter granted by Henry III. to send the sheriff of Norwich, every year, an hundred herrings baked in twenty-four

\* A last is ten barrels, containing a thousand herrings.

† Cobles are open boats, which come from the north, from Scarborough, Whirby, and to Yarmouth, to let themselves out to fish for the merchants, during the fair time,

pasties, which are to be delivered to the Lord of the Manor of East Carlton, in this county, who is to give a receipt for the same, and to convey them to the King, wherever he is.

During the time of the fair, while the fish are landing, and under the operation of curing, i. e. of smoaking, or, as it is here termed, hanging the herrings, occasions a smell exceedingly disagreeable to strangers; this is the only inconvenience this town is reproached with, but *Lucri dulcis odor*.

This town employs a number of vessels for the exportation of herrings to Genoa, Leghorn, Naples, Messina, Venice, and also to Spain and Portugal; and with them are likewise exported great quantities of worsted stuffs, and stuffs made of silk and worsted, camblets, &c. the manufactures of the neighbouring city of London and places adjacent; they also carry on a considerable trade to Holland in woollen manufactures, and have likewise a fishing trade to the North seas for white fish, which from the place are called the North-Sea Cod.

Another very beneficial trade they carry on to Norway and the Baltic, bringing in return, deals and fir timber, oaken planks, baulks, boulings, spars, oars, pitch, tar, hemp, flax, canvass and sailcloth, with all manner of naval stores, for which they generally have a consumption in their own port.

The haven was preserved, and the piers maintained, by contribution, till the time of King Charles II. And it ought to be mentioned to the honour of the public-spiritedness of their ancestors, that in Queen Elizabeth's time the town, out of its corporation-estate, and public treasure, expended thirty-one thousand pounds, a very great sum in these days, but a much greater in those. In the reign of King Charles II. an act passed, giving  
power



power to levy certain duties for the same good purposes ; and these have been continued by subsequent acts.

To all this we must add, without compliment to the town, that the merchants, and even the generality of traders of Yarmouth, have a very good reputation in trade, as well abroad as at home, for fair and honourable dealing ; and their sea-men, as well masters as mariners, are justly esteemed among the ablest and most expert navigators in England.

This town, however populous and large, had till lately but one parish-church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, though it is very large. It has an high spire, which is an useful sea-mark. It was built by the famous Bishop of Norwich, Herbert Losinga, who flourished in the reign of William II. and Henry I. William of Malmesbury calls him *Vir pecuniosus*, from the works of charity and munificence which he has left as witnesses of his immense riches ; for he built the cathedral church, the priory for sixty monks, the bishop's palace, and the parish-church of St. Leonard, all in Norwich ; this great church at Yarmouth, the church of St. Margaret at Lynn, and of St. Mary at Elmham. He removed the episcopal see from Thetford to Norwich, and instituted the Cluniac monks at Thetford, and gave them, or built them, an house.

But in the reigns of Queen Anne, and King George I. two acts passed for building a new church or chapel of ease in Yarmouth, and for enlightening the streets of the town, and other purposes ; all which is performed in so complete a manner, as to be worthy of the place.

Also in the act which passed in the year 1723, and which has been since renewed, provision was made for preserving of ships wintering in the haven from accidents by fire. This provision was a very necessary

necessary one; for the haven is so very commodious for the secure and safe lying of ships in the winter season, that several hundred sail are yearly laid up and winter in it, which lie so contiguous to one another, and so near the houses, that, in case of fire, not only the ships, but the town, would be in danger of being totally destroyed.

Here is a fine market-place, and the streets are all exactly straight from north to south, the lanes or alleys, which they call Rows, crossing them in straight lines also from east to west; so that it is the most regular built town in England, and seems as if it had been erected all at once, upon an uniform plan.

The corporation sends two members to parliament, and consists of a mayor, recorder, aldermen, chamberlain, thirty-six common-councilmen, and a town-clerk; and is a court of record, and of admiralty:—In the first they try civil causes for unlimited sums; and in the other have a power to try, condemn, and execute, without waiting for a warrant from above. This power they exerted once, in executing a captain of one of the King's ships of war in the reign of King Charles II. for a murder committed in the street, the circumstance of which did indeed call for justice; but some thought they would not have ventured to exert it, as they did. However, we never heard, that the government resented it, or blamed them for it.

*Clay* and *Blackney* are regarded jointly as a part of Yarmouth; Clay is looked upon as the principal place, though Blackney gives name to that creek which supplies them both with an harbour. They have between them fifteen sail of small vessels, and it may be sixty fishing-boats. It is thought they export twenty thousand quarters of malt and hard corn, and carry at least as much coast-wise; they bring in about six thousand chaldrons of coals, and

the remainder of their trade consists in deals, barks, fir-timber, pantiles, and iron. One would imagine that Clay was in a better condition in 1406, when James, son of Robert III. King of Scots, and himself afterwards King James I. was brought in prisoner there, being taken at a great distance by a ship of force.

The sea-side on this coast, is particularly noted for being one of the most dangerous and most fatal to sailors in all Britain; and the more so because of the great number of ships, which are continually going and coming this way, in their passage between London and all the northern coasts of Britain.

The reason of which is, that the shore, from the mouth of the river Thames to Yarmouth road, lies in a straight line from south-south-east to north-north-west, the land being on the west or larboard-side. From Winterton-nefs, which is the utmost easterly point of land in the county of Norfolk, and about four miles beyond Yarmouth, the shore falls off for near sixty miles to the west, as far as Lynn and Boston, till the shore of Lincolnshire tends north again for about sixty miles more, as far as the Humber; whence the coast of Yorkshire, or Holderness, which is part of the East Riding, shoots out again into the sea, to the Spurne, and to Flamborough-head, as far East almost as the shore of Norfolk had given back at Winterton, making a very deep gulph or bay, between those two points of Winterton and the Spurn-head, so that the ships going north, are obliged to stretch away to sea from Winterton-nefs; and leaving the sight of land in the deep bay we have mentioned, that reaches to Lynn, and the shore of Lincolnshire, they go, as we observed, north, or still north-north-west, to meet the shore of Holderness, which runs out into the sea again at the Spurn: this they leave also,

also, and the first land they make, is called, as above, Flamborough-head; so that Winterton-ness and Flamborough-head, are the two extremes of this course. There is, indeed, the Spurn-head between; but, as it lies too far in towards the Humber, they keep out to the north to avoid coming near it,

In like manner, the ships which come from the north, leave the shore at Flamborough-head; and stretch away south-south-east for Yarmouth Roads; and the first land they make is Winterton-ness, as above. Now, the danger of the place is this: If the ships coming from the north are taken with a hard gale of wind from the south-east, or from any point between north-east and south-east, so that they cannot weather Winterton-ness, they are thereby kept within that deep bay; and, if the wind blows hard, are often in danger of running ashore upon the rocks about Cromer, on the north-coast of Norfolk, or stranding upon the flat shore between Cromer and Wells. All the relief they have is good ground tackle to ride it out, which is very hard to do there, the sea coming very high upon them; or if they cannot ride it out, then to run into the bottom of the great bay, to Lynn or Boston, which is a very difficult and desperate push: so that sometimes, in this distress, whole fleets have been lost here altogether.

In the same danger are ships going northward; for if, after passing by Winterton, they are taken short with a north-east wind, and cannot put back into the roads, which very often happens, they are driven upon the same coast, and embayed just as the latter. The danger on the north part of this bay is not the same, because if ships going or coming should be taken short on this side Flamborough, there is the river Humber open to them, and several good roads to have recourse to; as Burlington.



lington-bay, Grimsby-road, the Spurn-head, and others where they ride under shelter.

The dangers of this place being thus considered, it is no wonder, that upon the shore beyond Yarmouth there are no less than four light-houses kept flaming every night, besides the lights at Caster, north of the town, and at Goulstone, south; all which are to direct sailors to keep a good offing, in case of bad weather, and to prevent their running into Cromer-bay, which the sea-men call the *Devil's Throat*.

From Yarmouth north-west, along the shore towards Cromer aforesaid, and all the way from Winterton, the farmers and country people have scarce a barn, shed, stable, or pales to their yards and gardens, or an hog-stye, or necessary-house, but what is built of old planks, beams, wales, timber, &c. the deplorable wrecks of ships, and ruins of mariners, and merchants fortunes; and in some places are whole yards filled, and piled up very high, with the same stuff, laid up for the like building purposes.

About the year 1692, a melancholy instance of shipwreck happened:—A fleet of two hundred sail of light colliers went out of Yarmouth-roads with a fair wind, to pursue their voyage, and were taken short with a storm of wind at north-east. After they were passed Winterton-ness a few leagues, some of them whose masters made a better judgment of things, or who were not so far out as the rest, tacked and put back in time, and got safe into the roads; but the rest, pushing on, in hopes to keep out to sea, and weather it, were by the violence of the storm driven back, when they were too far embayed to weather Winterton-ness, and so were forced to run west, all shifting for themselves as well as they could: some ran away for Lynn-deeps, but few of them (the night being

so dark) could find their way thither; some, but very few rid it out, at a distance; the rest, being above an hundred and forty sail, were all driven on shore, and dashed to pieces, and very few of the people on board were saved. At the very same unhappy juncture, a fleet of loaden ships was coming from the North, and, being just crossing the same bay, were forcibly driven into it, not able to weather the Nefs, and so were involved in the same ruin as the light fleet was; also some coasting vessels laden with corn from Lynn and Wells, and bound for Holland, were, with the same unhappy luck, just come out to begin their voyage, and some of them lay at anchor: these also met with the same misfortune; so that in the whole, above two hundred sail of ships, and above a thousand people were lost in the disaster of that one miserable night, very few escaping.



## NORFOLK CIRCUIT.

## YORKSHIRE.

**A**S this is by far the largest county in England, so it is variously situate, and consequently has great variety of ground, that is high and low, rich and poor, marshy and healthy.

On the west it is bounded by Lancashire and a part of Cheshire; on the south by Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, and Lincolnshire; on the north by Durham and Westmoreland; and on the east by the German Ocean.

It is said to be almost exactly of the same dimensions as the Duchy of Wirtemberg, in Germany, and to contain three hundred and sixty miles in compass, being seventy-five from north to south, and eighty from east to west. Mr. *Templeman* extends it to an hundred and fourteen miles in length, eighty in breadth, and gives it an area of four thousand six hundred and eighty-four square miles, which is by others computed at three million seven hundred and seventy thousand acres.

It is divided into three parts, or Ridings, each of which is as large, if not larger, than any ordinary county; these are distinguished by West, East, and North,



North, from their situation with respect to the City of York, and contain, viz.

	Wapentakes, or Hundreds,	Market- Towns,
The West Riding	— 10	— 24
East Riding	— 4	— 8
North Riding	— 12	— 17
	<hr/> 26	<hr/> 49

In the three divisions are five hundred and sixty-three parishes, two hundred and forty-two vicarages, with many chapels of ease; two thousand three hundred and thirty villages, about an hundred and six thousand one hundred and fifty houses, and five hundred and thirty thousand seven hundred and fifty inhabitants. It is subdivided into three lesser shires, viz. Richmondshire, Allectonshire, Howdenshire, to which some add Hallamshire, and these again into other partitions, as Craven, Cleveland, Marshland, Holderness, &c.

As the situation is different, so of course are the air and soil; what affects the one, generally affects the other; a fenny moist earth, being attended with a nasty foggy air, while an healthy dry ground enjoys an air that is clear and healthy. The marshy lands are rich, and the hilly barren, in a greater or lesser degree; and as it is every where else, so it is in Yorkshire, which is generally allowed to have as much good and indifferent air, and as much rich, indifferent, and bad soil, as any part of England.

The commodities of Yorkshire are in a particular manner, allum, jet, lime, liquorice, horses. Its manufactures, knives, bits, spurs, stockings, &c. but the greatest of all is cloth, with which, it in a good measure supplies Germany, and the North.

The

The corn and cattle, with which it abounds, are not mentioned, because these are what they have in common with other counties. Iron and lead mines have been in more plenty than of late years, tho' no less than forty thousand persons are employed in the iron manufactures, under about six hundred master cutlers, who are incorporated under the stile of the Cutlers of Hallamshire. It sends thirty members to parliament, viz. two knights for the shire, two citizens for York, and two burgeses for each of the following boroughs, viz.

Kingston-upon Hull,	Malton,
Knareborough,	Thirsk,
Scarborough,	Aldborough,
Rippon,	Beverley,
Richmond,	Northallerton,
Heydon,	Pontefract,
Boroughbridge.	

It lies in the diocese of York, except Richmondshire in the North Riding, which is in the diocese of Chester. In a word, this county is not inferior to some of the biggest provinces of France; for besides what we have mentioned, it contains thirty-six rivers, fourteen castles, sixty-two bridges, four chaces, eight forests, and seventy-two parks: and the people are remarked for being very subtle. Before we begin our description of the different towns, &c. it will be necessary to give some account of the word *Riding*; which, though common to other counties, as appears from a law of King Edward the Confessor's, is now peculiar to this. *Riding* is only a corruption of the old Saxon word *Trithing*, which in that law is said to be a third part of the province. But to explain this matter more clearly, it must be noted, that in the division of England

by the Saxons, for the better government of it, there were three parts, viz. Tithings, Hundreds or Wapentakes, and Trithings or Ridings; which thus differ; Tithings consisted of ten families, subject to the care of the decurio, or tithing-man, who was to be answerable for the behaviour of the masters of those families. Ten of those tithings made a hundred, or Wapentake, which last was so called because the governor of it, when put in his place, held up a weapon, viz. a spear, and the elder of the tithings admitted him by tacking or touching their spears with his, as a token of their subjection to him. Ridings or Trithings were a third part of a county, be it greater or less, and appeals were made to them in causes not determinable in the Wapentakes. A Riding in this county fully answers the definition of a third part. And of these Ridings we proceed to treat, beginning with the most considerable of them, for its fertility and number of inhabitants, viz.

The WEST RIDING, or WEST Part of this  
C O U N T Y.

THIS part of the county is separated by the Ouse from the East Riding on the east, it has the North Riding on the north, part of Lancashire and Cheshire on the west and south-west, and Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire on the south-east and south.

Its chief rivers are, 1. The Ure, which rising out of the western mountains in the North Riding, bounds it from this till it comes about York, where being joined by a little brook, called Ousebourne, it then takes the name of Ouse, and receiving all the other rivers in this Riding, carries them into the Humber, to which it is navigable all the way from York. 2. The Danus, commonly called the Dón, or Dune, because it runs in a low deep channel, which is the meaning of the British word *Dan*.

It

It rises in the south border of this Riding, and taking in the Brook Went, passes by the river Isle of Marshland into the Ouse. Its water and fish are of great service to these southern parts. 3. The Calder flows along the borders between this Riding and Lancashire, with only a small current at first, but being joined by other streams, becomes so large about Eftland, that it is not passable, except by a bridge; and being afterwards augmented by many other brooks, runs to five miles beyond Wakefield, where it falls into, 4. The Ara, which rises at the root of Pennigent, the highest hill on this side of the county, in that rough rocky tract called Craven, from the British word *Crage*, i. e. a rock. This river is so winding and crooked towards its source, that people pass over it seven or eight times in half an hour in a strait road, and its course is so gentle, that it hardly seems to move, for which reason it has its name; the British word *Ara* signifying slow and easy. It runs a long way almost quite across this Riding, before it falls into the Dan, near Snaith, and so passes into the Ouse. 5. The Ribble rises also in these hills of Craven, and holds on a course of forty miles before it leaves this Riding for Lancashire. 6. The Wherfe, springs likewise out of the foot of Craven hills, and runs with a rapid torrent in this Riding, above fifty miles before it falls into the Ouse, keeping an equal distance of about ten miles from the Ara, for a great way. Among other rivulets it receives the Washbrook and Cock, which are very considerable. The other rivulets here are the Rother, the Idle, the Went, the Hebden, Hyde, Kebeck, Dent, Revel and Gret.

Its hills are the Ingleborough, Pendle, Pennigent, Whelpton, Cam, and Whurnsyde.

There is a very true proverb in this county,

That



That Pendle, Pennigent, and Ingleborough,  
Are the highest hills all England thorough.

They are all three in sight of each other; the Pendle is on the edge of Lancashire, and Pennigent and Ingleborough near settle in Yorkshire, not far from Westmorland.

In this riding are three sorts of fuel, viz. pit-coal, wood and turf. The first is still much more plentiful than the second, which however is not wanted, and is used on extraordinary occasions for firing, as well as for building and shipping. Turf is dug nowhere but in the boggy part of Marshland, and chiefly used in the neighbouring villages.

Its air, though sharp, is generally reckoned more healthy than that of the other two Ridings. The soil on the west side of it is hilly and stony, and therefore not very fruitful; though in the valleys there is plenty of good meadow ground and pasture; but that part of it towards the river Ouse is a rich soil: producing wheat and barley, though not in so great plenty as oats, which are cultivated with success, even in its worst parts. That called the Marshland, because it was once a boggy tract, over-run with water, was drained at the expence of the neighbouring gentlemen in the reign of King Charles I. and has now as wholesome an air as other parts of the riding, except the upland hilly parts of it, especially Craven.

In this Riding are trees seldom found in other counties, as firs, yews, and chesnuts; and it is remarkable not only for its many parks and chaces, but for mines of lime-stone for manure, and quarries of stone for building, and of another sort whereof the people make alum. It is of a bluish colour, and will cleave like Cornish slate. The mine lies deep, and requires great pains to dig up, but being

ing calcined, it is made into alum by various percolations and boilings; of which the curious may see an account in Dr. *Lauthorp's* Abridgment of the Philosophical Transactions. This Riding is noted for jet and liquorice, for fine hares and goats, besides other cattle; for making and curing legs of pork into hams, like the Westphalia; and for the manufactures of cloth and iron.

The great northern road enters this county at

*Bawtry*, an hundred and fifty-two miles from London, part of which stands in Yorkshire, and the other part in Nottinghamshire. Its chief note is for mill-stones. It is situated by the side of the river Idle, a little but pleasant stream, which current is quite contrary to the import of its name, as it is a full and quick, though not a rapid and unsafe stream, with a deep channel, which carries lighters and flat-bottomed vessels into the Trent, that comes within seven miles of it, to a place called Stockwith, from thence to Brighton, and from thence, if the weather be fair, to Hull: if not, it is sufficient to go to Stockwork, where vessels of two hundred tons burthen may come up to this town.

By this navigation, *Bawtry* becomes the centre of all the exportation of this part of the county, especially for heavy goods, which are brought down hither from the adjacent countries, particularly lead, mill-stones, and grind-stones, from Derbyshire.

*Doncaster*, an hundred and sixty miles from London, takes its name from its situation on the river *Don*, or *Dan*, and the castle, which is now ruined. It is an ancient town, according to *Camden*; it was burnt to the ground by lightning, about the year 760, and so buried in its own rubbish, that it is hardly yet recovered; however it is so greatly

greatly improved in its buildings of late years, that it is now a spacious and populous town, and had a magnificent mansion-house for its mayor, before either London or York.

The town is governed by a mayor, recorder, six aldermen and common-council: King James II. gave them a new charter in 1685, which was brought to the town-hall with great pomp, attended by a train of three hundred horse-men.

The principal manufacture carried on here is for stockings, gloves, and knit waistcoats. At the south end of the town is a remarkable old column, called a cross, with a Norman inscription upon it. The church is large, and has a tower of admirable workmanship. There are two monuments in it of remarkable benefactors to the town, viz. 1. Thomas Ellis, who had been five times mayor of it, and founded St. Thomas's hospital here: and 2. Robert Byrks, who gave Refington-wood to the public, and has this very odd inscription on his tomb:

"Howe, howe, who is heare?

I Robin of Doncastere,

And Margaret my feare.

That I spent that I had,

That I gave, that I have,

That I left, that I lost.

A. D. 1579.

Quoth *Robertus Byrks*, who in this world did reign  
Three score years and seven, but lived not ane.

We ought not to forget that the celebrated sailer, Sir Martin Forbisher, was born in this town. He was the first Englishman, who (in the reign of Queen Elizabeth) discovered the North passage to China and Cathai, and found some streights, which he called after his own name, and a foreland after the Queen's. At his first voyage, some of the  
company

company brought back black stones, out of which, the refiners, it is said, extracted some gold, which encouraged him to load his ship with them afterwards; but they were then found to be fit for nothing but to mend the highway. He signalized himself against the Spanish Armada, and received his death wound by a shot at Brest in Britany: the surgeon having extracted the bullet, left the wadding behind; by which means the wound mortified, and he died as soon as he had brought the fleet back to Plymouth.

*Ferrybridge*, an hundred and seventy-five miles and an half from London, takes its name from the bridge over the river Ara. It is of note for a battle fought on it in 1461, between the armies of the Yorkists and Lancastrians. A large stone causey extends from it, about a mile in length, to a village called Brotherton, where Margaret, wife to King Edward I. was forced to retire as she was hunting, and was delivered of a son, called from hence Thomas of Brotherton, who was afterwards made Earl of Norfolk, and Earl Marshal of England. Not far from the church is a piece of ground of twenty acres, surrounded with a trench and a wall, where, as tradition informs us, stood the house in which the Queen was delivered; and the tenants are obliged by tenure to keep it surrounded with a wall of stone.

Great quantities of lime-stones are brought from Tadcaster to this village, where many hands are employed in burning it.

At Ferrybridge the road divides, and one part leads to York and Whitby, in the road to which we meet with

*Towton*, where a most cruel and bloody battle was fought between the houses of Lancaster and York, in the reign of Edward IV. It is called cruel and bloody, because the animosity of the parties



parties was so great, that though they were countrymen and neighbours, nay, as history says, relations, (for here fathers killed their sons, and sons their fathers) for some time they fought with such obstinacy and rancour, that they gave no quarter. It is certain such numbers were never slain in one battle in England, since that fought between King Harold and William the Norman, at a battle in Suffex; for in this fell in the whole thirty-six thousand men, and the Yorkists proved victorious.

*Tadcaster*, an hundred and eighty-seven miles and an half from London. It is situate on the river *Wharfe*, and is said to be a very ancient town. Many coins of Roman Emperors have been dug up here, and there are the works of a trench quite round the town, and of the platform of an old castle; out of the ruins of which, about an hundred and forty years ago, a fine stone bridge was built over the river *Wharfe*. There was anciently a bridge of wood, but when that was broke down, and the *Wharfe* was not fordable, the passage was turned by *Wetherby*.

*York*, an hundred and ninety-seven miles from London, is an ancient city, formerly the capital of the *Brigantes*; it is an archbishopric, and chief of the province of *York*, as London is of *Canterbury*, and, like London, its chief magistrate has the title of Lord Mayor, which is an honour no other city in the kingdom besides can boast of. It is so very ancient, that its antiquity cannot be ascertained; but this is certain, that it was the residence, or garrison of the Vth Roman legion, called *Victrix*, sent to Britain by *Adrian*; that the IXth legion, called *Hispaniensis*, stiled *Victrix* also, by *Sir Henry Savil*, was stationed here in *Galba's* time; and also that the Emperor *Severus* had his court and died here, and that his ashes were carried from hence

hence in a golden urn to Rome; here was likewise a temple dedicated to Bellona. Fla. Val. Constantinus Chlorus died, and his son, Constantine the Great, here received the last breath of his father.

This city was erected into a Metropolitan See by Pope Honorius, about the time of the settling of the Saxons here; it then had twelve bishopricks subject to it, and all Scotland, but now it has only Durham, Carlisle, Chester and the Isle of Man. This church, according to *Camden*, was endowed with large possessions by the princes of that age, and mentions one very strange endowment by Ulphus, the son of Toroaldus, who filled the horn he used to drink out of with wine, and kneeling before the altar, bestowed upon God and St. Peter, all his lands and revenues. This horn was kept there till the sixteenth century, but was missing for a long time afterwards, till Henry Lord Fairfax recovered the relick, and it was restored to the minster by his successor.

This piece of antiquity, which is made of an elephant's tooth, has been new decorated, and has a Latin inscription, mentioning the particulars of the donation, as is above spoken of.

In the reign of King Stephen, the cathedral, with St. Mary's and the other monasteries, were burnt down by an accidental fire. St. Mary's monastery soon rose again to its former splendor, but the cathedral lay neglected till the reign of Edward I. when it was begun to be rebuilt by John Roman, the treasurer of this church, and finished in the beautiful manner it now appears, by the contributions of the Piercies, the Vavasors, and other neighbouring gentry, and of several of the Archbishops, particularly Thoresby, a Cardinal, who, in the year 1361, laid the first stone of this choir.

As this cathedral claims the pre-eminence over all the Gothic structures in this kingdom, and we may, with propriety, say in Europe, we shall be minute in our description of it; though, indeed, there are some who give to Lincoln the preference, but as it is not consistent with our work to join in the dispute, and as we have already described the cathedral at Lincoln, we shall content ourselves with giving a particular account of this, and leave the determination to the readers own judgment.

The dimensions of the cathedral are as follow :

	Feet.
The whole length, besides the buttresses, is	524 $\frac{1}{2}$
Breadth of the east end —	105
Breadth of the west end —	109
Length of the cross aisle from north to south — —	222
Height of the lanthorn steeple, to the vault — —	188
Square of ditto —	70
Height of it to the top of the leads	213
Height of the body of the church	99
Breadth of the inside aisles, north and south — —	18
Height of the side arches, north and south — —	42
From the west end to the choir door	261
Length of the choir, from the steps ascending to the door of the present altar table — —	157 $\frac{1}{2}$
Breadth of the choir —	46 $\frac{1}{2}$
From the choir door to the east end	222
Height of the east end —	75
The breadth of it — —	32

The

The principal entrance of the church at the west end is inexpressibly grand, through a large Gothic arch, which binds and supports two uniform towers, diminished by several contractions, all cloistered for imagery, and enriched with other ornaments. In the south tower hangs a deep peal of twelve bells.

The large window, over this entrance, is greatly admired, the tracery of the mason's work being of a figure so beautiful, as not to be equalled any where. The several windows in the towers are large, and their tracery and ornaments well fancied.

The south entrance is ascended by several courses of steps, and tradition assures us, there was once as great an ascent to the west door. Here a remarkable spiral turret is erected on the middle of the pediment, and called the Fiddlers-turret, from the image of a fiddler on the top. Over the door is a dial both horary and solar, on each side of which two images strike the quarters on two bells.

In viewing the building from this part eastwards, it is easily discerned to be much newer than that westward, though conformable to it.

The east front is exceedingly noble, and has the finest window in the world.

The north side is the same as the south: only a wall is built to prevent night-walkers, and other disorderly persons, from nesting and intriguing in the obscure corners of the buttresses.

The lantern steeple is ornamented in a fine taste, wanting nothing but a better finishing at top: it has eight windows, two on each side, to give light within; these windows, from top to bottom, are forty-five feet high.

The west door opens into the middle nef of the church, under the large Gothick arch before mentioned,



tioned. The nef is the most spacious of any in Europe, except St. Peter's at Rome; it exceeds the dimensions of the nef of St. Paul's cathedral, four feet six inches in width and eleven in height; and that of Westminster abbey sixteen feet six inches in breadth; but its height is two feet less. The canopy at top is enriched with curious carved knots.

The stone screen, that parts the choir from the body of the church, is adorned with curious workmanship, among which are placed the statues of the British Kings from William I. to Henry VI.

Over the entrance into the choir stands the organ, having a double front; it had before been removed from thence by King Charles I. to one side opposite to the bishop's throne. The reason his Majesty gave for doing it was, That it spoiled the prospect of the fine east windows from the Body of the church.

The choir is adorned with antient wood-work carved, and set up with clusters of knotted pinacles of different heights. The ascent from the body of the church, through the choir to the altar, is by a gradation of sixteen steps. The altar has lately received a considerable improvement as to its situation, and the whole church in its beauty, by taking away a large wooden screen, which almost obstructed the view of the east window. By this means it was carried one arch farther back, to a stone screen of Gothic architecture; which now not only shews a beauty in itself, before hid, but opens a view to one of the noblest lights in the world, both for masonry and glazing; which is the afore-mentioned east window.

This window is thirty feet nine inches broad, and seventy-five feet high: the upper part is a piece of fine tracery, very beautiful, but not so much admired as that at the west end. Below the tracery are

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an hundred and seventeen partitions, wherein is represented, in fine painted glass, most of the history of the Bible. This window was glazed in 1405, by one John Thornton, Glazier, of Coventry; who received for his own work, four shillings a week; and contracted to finish the whole in three years.

In a circular window at the south end of the church, is another fine piece of masonry, in the form of a wheel, called the Marigold-window, from its painted glass, which resembles the colour of that flower. The north end has five noble lights; each constitutes one large window, and reach almost from top to bottom. There is a tradition, that five maiden sisters were at the expence of these lights. The painting of the glass represents a kind of embroidery, or mosaic needlework; which might perhaps give occasion to the story.

We ought not to omit mentioning, that all the windows in the church, except one or two, are adorned with painted glass, representing the sacred history, and the portraitures of eminent persons. This painting was preserved at the time of the civil wars, by the Lord Fairfax, General of the Parliament's army, who, at the request of the gentry and citizens of York, placed a guard of soldiers about the church for that purpose.

The body of the church was some years ago new paved, according to a plan drawn by that ingenious architect Mr. Kent, under the direction of the late Earl of Burlington. The figure is mosaic and properly adapted to a Gothic building.

There is much carving in stone in the cathedral, exceedingly light. The monuments are numerous and ancient, some of them very magnificent; the canopy of a monument near the east window, and some of the ornaments of Archbishop Savage's tomb, are worthy of the notice of the curious.

The

The chapter-house is one of the most beautiful Gothic structures in the universe, and merits the encomium bestowed upon it, as it is said, by a great traveller, in an old monkish verse, inscribed on the wall in golden letters, as follows :

*Ut Rosa flos florum, sic est domus ista domorum,*

As shines the rose above all meaner flowers,  
So above other piles this building towers.

It is an octagon of sixty-three feet diameter. The height to the middle knot of the roof is sixty-seven feet ten inches, unsupported by any pillars, and entirely dependent upon one pin geometrically placed in the centre. The whole roof has been richly painted, and the knots of carved work gilt ; but now defaced and sullied by time. Over the roof is a spire of timber work, covered with lead, and admired as a master piece of work in the carpenters art. The eight squares of the octagon have each a window beautifully adorned, and embellished with painted glass.

The dimensions of the vestry-room are forty-four feet by twenty-two. In it is preserved several antiquities, particularly the elephant's tooth before-mentioned. In the south side of the church is a good library, to which the widow of Archbishop Matthews was a great benefactress. Her father was a bishop, her father-in-law an archbishop, four of her brethren bishops, and her second husband was an archbishop.

There is a noble repository of ancient ecclesiastical records in the Archbishop's Registry and Prerogative Office, whose dates are ninety-three years earlier than any at Lambeth or Canterbury.

At

At St. Margaret's church in Walmgate is a most extraordinary porch. It is a most sumptuous and elaborate piece of Gothic architecture, with the image of our Saviour on the cross on the top of it. It is more surprizing, as it is said not to have originally belonged to the church, but brought hither from the dissolved hospital of St. Nicholas.

The church of All Saints, on the Pavement of York, is a beautiful old church, with a Gothic steeple of exquisite workmanship. Upon the tower is a fine lantern, with pinnacles of a considerable height, not much unlike that of Barton in Lincolnshire.

The two steeples of St. Mary's in Castle-gate and Christ-church are greatly admired; the first for its pyramidical form, the other for a very modern fine one.

The mansion-house here is very handsome; the basement of it is a rustic arcade, which supports an Ionic order, with a pediment on it. There is a large room in it, the length of the front forty-nine feet by twenty-nine, so that this city had the honour to set the precedent for the city of London to copy after.

The assembly room surpasses any other of its kind in this kingdom, and we may say in Europe. It was designed by the late Earl of Burlington, and erected for the entertainment of the nobility and gentry, who reside at York during the races. That part called the Egyptian-hall, taken from a draught of Palladio, is in length an hundred a twenty-three feet, forty broad, and rather more in height. This hall communicates with the common ball-room, in length sixty-six feet, in height and breadth twenty-two, besides other rooms for cards and tea; all richly decorated, and illuminated with magnificent lustres. The front to the street is a fine piece of architecture, and the Egyptian-hall exceedingly



exceedingly beautiful. The expence, which amounted to several thousand pounds, was defrayed by subscription, chiefly among the nobility and gentry of the county, who are proprietors thereof, in proportion to their respective subscription.

On a grand gradual ascent from the river on the north side, is a spot called the Manor, but formerly had the name of the King's Palace: it was almost demolished in the civil wars. Joining to this palace are the ruins of St. Mary's abbey. This is esteemed the best situation in the town, and affords a good prospect.

The guildhall deserves notice, as does several other public edifices, which are both useful and ornamental to this ancient city.

The great council-chamber for this city, near which the records are kept, as also the exchequer, and courts of the sheriffs, and near them the two city prisons for debtors and felons are kept on the old bridge here.

The castle, which stands at the confluence of the Ouse and the Fosse, was built by William I. in the year 1069. It is now quite altered from the appearance it formerly wore; however, as its name occurs in history, on a tragical scene that was acted within its walls, on the 11th of March, 1189, we shall give a brief account of it.

“The Jews, from their first introduction into England, growing immensely rich by traffic, never failed to become the object of envy and hatred both to prince and people, and the slightest pretences were always eagerly laid hold of to plunder them; so that upon every new accession or turn of affair, they were forced to compound for their safety, by large presents to the prince.

“At the accession of Richard I. though that Prince gave them no disturbance, yet he issued out

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an order, that no Jew should be present at the ceremony of his coronation, either at church or at dinner.

“ However, the chief of the Jews, from all parts, being summoned to London by their brethren there, in order to agree upon a rich gift to the new King, to obtain his favour and protection, many of them, notwithstanding the injunction, had the curiosity to see the ceremony; and being discovered among the crowd by the guards, they were beat, abused, and some of them killed.

“ The people hereupon being possessed with a notion, that the King had given orders that the Jews should be destroyed, began a massacre of them in London, and plundered and burnt their houses, and in them many of their wives and children.

“ And though the King immediately ordered a proclamation to stop these proceedings, yet the example at London was followed at Norwich, Lynn and Stamford, and with still greater fury at York, notwithstanding the King, at his departure to the Holy Land, left orders for the protection of the Jews, and the punishment of those who should molest them; for, being inflamed by a wicked priest, certain bloody wretches, who had resolved upon the destruction of the Jews, and to enrich themselves with their plunder, set fire to a part of the city of York; and while the citizens were busy in extinguishing the flames, broke into the house of a principal Jew, who had been murdered at London, and whose wife had strengthened it for her defence; and, murdering the whole family, and all who had taken refuge there, burnt the house to the ground.

“ The Jews hereupon, in the utmost terror, got leave to convey all their wealth into the castle, and obtained shelter there for their own persons, and for their wives and children, except some few, who

were sacrificed to the rage of the populace; who burnt all the houses of the Jews throughout the city.

“ It unluckily happened, that the governor of the castle having business in the town, the poor Jews being afraid he went out to agree upon delivering them up to their enemies, refused him admittance in it again; which incensing him, he applied to the High Sheriff, who, raising the *Passé-Comitatus*, besieged the castle, and reduced the Jews to so great extremity, that, being refused mercy, though they offered to buy it at the expence of immense sums, they took the dreadful advice of one of their Rabbies, come lately among them from abroad; and first having burnt all their rich goods, and so damaged even their plate, that their barbarous enemies could not be much the better for their spoils, they set fire to all the towers of the castle, and fell each man to cutting the throats of his own family till they had destroyed all who came into this dreadful scheme of their Rabbi, who, in the last place, followed the advice he had given.

“ In the mean time, the fire of the castle increasing, a number of unhappy Jews who would not come into this bloody action (in vain endeavouring to extinguish it) from the walls besought the mercy of the besiegers, acquainting them with what had happened; and threw over the dead bodies of their brethren, in confirmation of the truth of what they asserted; and, offering to become Christians, had hopes given them of their lives: but no sooner did their merciless enemies gain admittance, than they butchered every one of the Jews, calling aloud for baptism, in hopes of escaping their worse than Paganish cruelty.

“ Not satisfied with this, the barbarous robbers and murderers ran next to the cathedral, where were deposited the bonds and other securities of the money

money owing to the Jews by the Christians, broke open the chests and destroyed them all.

“There were five hundred men who took shelter in the castle, besides women and children. So that the whole number of Jews thus miserably slaughtered, must be between a thousand and fifteen hundred, besides those who were massacred in the city.”

We must do this justice to the King, who was then in the Holy Land, that, as soon as he heard of this unparalleled villainy, he was highly incensed, and sent orders to the Bishop of Ely, his Chancellor and Regent, to go down in person to York, and execute strict justice, without favour or affection, on all offenders. The Bishop came to the city, but the chief author of the riot had fled to Scotland. However, the citizens were laid under a large fine, and the sheriff and governor of the castle were removed from their places, and committed to prison; and the soldiers concerned in the fray were punished, and turned out of service; but not one man, either then or afterwards, was executed for this unheard of barbarity.

“The strength of this castle has been often experienced in times of war, and becomes famous in history, upon account of several memorable events. We hope for the future there will never be occasion to make any other use of it than to the same necessary purpose to which it is now converted, namely, a prison; but a prison the most stately and complete of any in the kingdom, if not in Europe. The present edifice was erected in the year 1701. In the left wing of the building is a handsome chapel, neatly adorned with suitable furniture, and an allowance of forty pounds a year is settled upon a minister, for performing divine service, and preaching to the prisoners weekly; and such of the debtors as attend at sermons, allowed each a loaf of bread. The justices of the peace take care that the  
goal

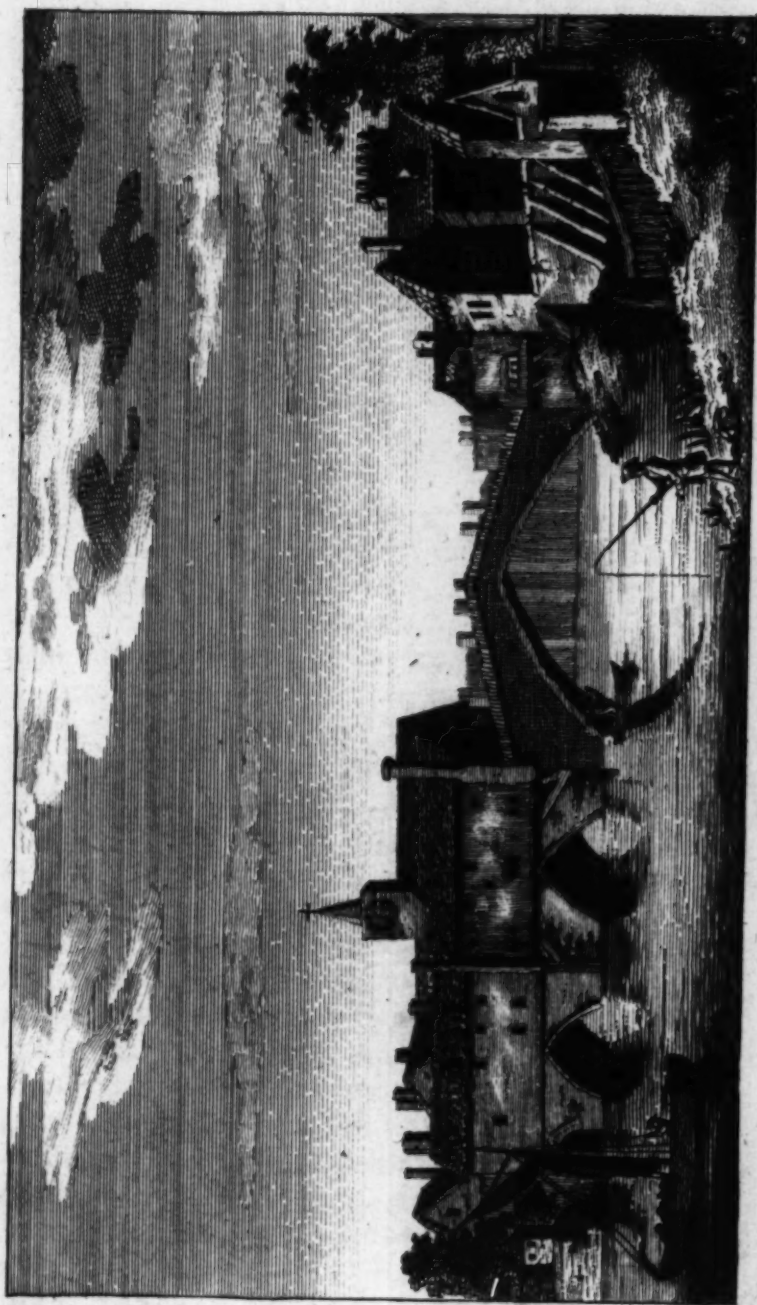


goal shall be kept as neat within as it is noble without. The felons are allowed straw, and their beds are raised from the ground: and there is an infirmary apart from the common prison, to which the sick are conveyed, and a surgeon has a salary to attend them.

The castle-yard is larger than the areas of the Fleet or King's Bench in London; and the situation is so high, pleasant, and airy, that it is surprising that any prisoners should remove themselves by Habeas Corpus to either of those prisons, unless it be with a view of purchasing the liberty of the rules, because here they are never permitted to go without the walls. Strangers who visit the inside of it, seldom depart without making a trifling purchase of some of the small manufactures the prisoners work up for their subsistence.

*Ouse-Bridge*, is a very noble bridge, and formerly esteemed the largest in this Kingdom, before that at Blenheim House was built. It consists of five Gothic arches; the diameter of the centre is eighty-one feet wide, and fifty-one high. The reason of its being of these extraordinary dimensions, was, in order to prevent its being damaged by the like accidents it had before met with; for in the year 1564, a sudden thaw happened after a sharp frost and great fall of snow, occasioned a prodigious flood, whereby twelve houses were overthrown, and twelve persons drowned. The bridge continued unrepaired some time, till a proper sum could be raised, when it was partly rebuilt in its present manner. Mrs. Hall, the relict of Alderman Hall, gave an hundred pounds towards this work, in commemoration whereof a brass plate, since lost, with this inscription, was placed by the citizens on the north side of the bridge.

William



*Cuse Bridge York.*

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William Westwood, Lord Mayor, Anno Dom.  
1566.

Lady Jane Hall, to here the works of faith does  
shew,  
By giving an hundred pounds this bridge for to re-  
new.

The first bridge that was erected here over the  
Ouse, was demolished in the year 1154, by the fol-  
lowing accident. William, Archbishop of York,  
making his public entry into the city, the bridge  
being crouded with the multitude who came to meet  
him, the timber, with which it was constructed,  
gave way, and they all fell into the river; but not  
one of them was drowned, which was attributed to  
the prayers of the Archbishop.

It was re-edified in 1235, and in the year 1268,  
a fray happened on the bridge, between the citizens  
and the servants of John Comyn, a Scotch new-  
man, wherein several of the latter were slain. His  
quarrel was compromised through the mediation of  
the Kings of England and Scotland, on the follow-  
ing conditions: The citizens to pay to the said lord  
three hundred pounds, to erect a chapel on the spot  
where his servants were killed, and to maintain for  
ever two priests therein, to offer up their prayers for  
the souls of the slain.

This chapel was in use at the time of the refor-  
mation, and being a neat, convenient building, was  
afterwards converted into a burse, or exchange,  
where the merchants of the city usually meet every  
morning to transact business; but in the great decay  
of trade here, it was disused.

Ships of ninety tons burthen may sail through the  
centre arch of this bridge; the corporation keep it  
in repair out of the city stock,

The



The city of York stands upon a great extent of ground, in a large plain or valley, having houses on both sides the river, inhabited with gentry and others; but though it is so very extensive, the houses being not so close as in some other smaller cities, it is not so populous; nor does it carry on so great a trade as it did before the reformation. In Henry the Fifth's time, we read of forty-one parishes, seventeen chapels, sixteen hospitals, and nine abbeys, besides the cathedral; but now there are only twenty-three churches in use.

It returns two citizens to Parliament, who have a privilege of taking their seats in the House of Commons, next to the citizens of London, upon what is called the privy counsellors bench. It is governed by a lord-mayor, recorder, twelve aldermen, in commission of the peace, two sheriffs, twenty-four prime common council-men, eight chamberlains, seventy-two common council-men, a town-clerk, sword-bearer and common serjeant. The mayor and aldermen have conservation of the rivers Ouse, Humber, Wharfe, Derwent, Air and Don, within certain limits of each.

In the reign of Edward III. this city was looked upon as a sea-port, and furnished one vessel with nine men. It has usually given title to the second prince of the blood royal. His late highness Prince Edward, brother to his present majesty, was created duke of York, in the year 1760, but died September 13, 1767.

It would fill a volume to give a minute account of every antiquity in the city of York; we shall therefore refer our readers to Drake's Antiquities of the City of York, and content ourselves with mentioning only some of the most remarkable.

The arch at Micklegate-bar, and the multangular town and wall, near a place called the Mint-yard, were both built in the time of the Romans. On the wall

wall of St. Lawrence's church are some statues, which are now prostrate; whether they be Roman or Saxon, is a matter at present undetermined; certain it is, that the sepulchral monument of the standard bearer to the ninth legion of the Roman army, was dug up near Micklegate, and in other parts of the city have been found many Roman altars, inscriptions, urns, coins, and the like.

In digging the foundation of a large house in Micklegate above-mentioned, the workmen went much below any former foundation that could be observed on this spot; and at the depth of ten feet came to a stone, which, upon taking it up appeared to have figures on it, but miserably defaced. This drawing, says Dr. *Stukely*, is a sculpture of Mithras sacrificing a bull. He has on the Persian Mantle, called *Candys*, and the Phrygian Bonnet, called *Tiara*. He represents the Archimagus performing the great annual sacrifice at the Spring Equinox, according to the patriarchal usage.

These ceremonies to Mithras were generally celebrated in the cave of a rock; therefore this sculpture was found so deep in the earth.

There is commonly a figure on each side of him, habited in the same manner, standing cross-legged; the one holding a torch up, the other down. Here is only the latter, the other is imperfect.

Underneath is the figure of an horse, intimating the sun's course; for, in the time when the old patriarchal customs became profane, and defecrated into idolatry, they made Mithras to be Apollo, or the Sun. Whence these sculptures had a number of symbols, relating to the solar circuit of the year through the twelve zodiacal constellations. The two figures attending on the Archimagus are inferior officers to him. There is a mystery in their standing cross-legged, like our effigies of croisaders in churches; and it means the same thing; for the  
cross

cross was one part of the Mithraic ceremonies. These two, by the different attitude of their torches, represent day and night, as Mithras represents the sun. The figure imperfectly drawn, at the tail of the horse, may be a genius twisted round with a snake; which means the vitality imparted to all things by the solar power.

The other figures are officiating priests, dressed in a symbolic manner, to intimate the sun's influence and annual motion.

The Romans became extremely fond of the Mithraic ceremonies; whence this sculpture was placed in the imperial city of York. There is an image of Mithras at Chester, and no doubt many more in Britain.

St. *Jerom*, in his epistle to *Letia*, writes, "A few years ago, your cousin Gracchus, a person of Patrician quality, when he was præfect of the city, destroyed, broke, and burnt the cave of Mithras." This was at Rome about the year 378. Not long after, we may well imagine, the Roman præfect of York followed his example, and demolished the subterranean temple in Micklegate; where this sculpture of him was found.

The traveller will, no doubt, be pleased with a very pleasant walk on the banks of the river here. It is near a mile in length, and about the middle winds through a grove of trees in a very plain manner, the river appearing through them in a very picturesque stile: from this walk you look one way upon the river running thro' the meadow grounds, and the other, up to the bridge in the city, forming a lively view of sloops, barges, boats, &c. which renders it a very agreeable walk.

The road to Hornby enters this county on the south part of it, on the right of which, near the borders of it, is

*Kiveton,*

*Kiveton*, the seat of his Grace the Duke of Leeds. It is well situated in a wholesome air, and commands fine prospects. The house is very elegantly fitted up, and the apartments convenient. The hall fifty feet by thirty, painted by Sir James Thornhill. Around it are several elegant statues, some of which are finely executed. The following are remarked :

A Cupid,  
 Lucretia,  
 Hercùles,  
 Venus,  
 Paris,  
 Diana.

In the anti-room : The portrait of the Earl of Worcester ; by Holbein.

The Marquis of Montrose ; by Vandyke. And  
 The Queen and Queen of Bohemia : are pointed out as capital paintings.

The dining room, thirty-six by twenty-five, richly adorned with a number of fine pictures. Among others,

The four parts of the world ; by Rubens ; the beasts surprizingly fine ; the panther and the crocodile particularly beautiful.

The late Duchess of Leeds ; by Reynolds : a most sweet attitude, and the eyes exquisitely done.

Old woman and a candle ; by Schalken ; the light strong and fine.

Erasmus and Sir Thomas More ; by Holbein. &c.

On the right of the hall is the stair-case, painted by Le Guere, thirty-two square, by sixty high.

The saloon fifty-four by thirty-four : here are the following antiquities, Nero, Venus and Cupid, and Cleopatra. The pictures are,

The death of St. Sebastian ; by Guido.

St. Sebastian tied to a tree ; by Titian.

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The vestibule is twenty-three feet square. The pictures are,

Six fine views of Venice ; by Caralletti.

A landscape with figures ; by Pouffin.

Two views of Rome ; by Anconu.

The dressing-room is twenty-five feet by twenty-one. Here is a fine portrait of Philip King of Spain, by Titian.

The bed-chamber is twenty-five feet by twenty-one. A fine picture of King Charles on horse-back.

In another bed-chamber, thirty-four feet by twenty-four, is an excellent portrait of the Duke of Florence and Machiavel.

In the drawing-room, thirty-three feet by twenty-one, is the picture of

Rinaldo and Armida ; by Bartholomew ; and another of Danaë and the golden shower.

Alderman Hewet ; by Holbein.

Earl of Strafford and his Secretary.

The Earl of Arundel: two portraits, by Vandyke.

David with Goliath's head.

Titian at music ; by himself.

Lot and his daughter ; by Titian ; and a fine portrait of the Duke of Newburgh.

*Kiveton Park* is very beautiful, with a fine canal ; the gardens are exceedingly pleasant, and well laid out : through the woods of the park is a fine vista, the steeple of Laughton-church terminating the prospect.

*Laughton* is but a little distance from this seat : it is worthy of a visit from the traveller, to view the tower and spire of the church, which for delicacy and justness of proportion, is not excelled by any other Gothic piece of the kind.

The building stands upon a very high hill, which appears at a distance like that at Harrow, in the county of Middlesex. The height of the steeple to the

the weather-cock is one hundred and ninety-five feet, and, by its situation, the most conspicuous every way, of any, perhaps, in the kingdom, being seen from many places forty, fifty and sixty miles. It has a peculiar beauty when viewed on the diagonal line, the pinnacles at the corners of the tower being joined by arches to the spire, as are others above them, which break its outlines and give at the same time a beautiful diminution. How so elegant and ornamental a structure came to be erected in an obscure village, is greatly wondered at.

At a little distance, north of Laughton, are the ruins of *Rock*, or *Rock Abbey*, hid by a steep woody cliff towards the south, and by large rocks towards the north and north-east: the north and south-west sides of these ruins are bounded by two large woods; the circumference of that on the south-west, called King's-wood, is about a mile and an half, and of that on the north-west, called (as I suppose from a large farm on one side of it) Grange-wood, is about four or five miles. To the east is a large bed of water, which is the collection of a rivulet that runs amongst the ruins: the banks of each side this water are steep, and charmingly clothed with trees of various sorts, interspersed with several peeping rocks and ruins. Under one of the rocks is the mouth of a cavern, which, as we are told, had formerly a communication under ground with a monastery in Tickhill-castle, about two miles distant; but that the passage is now stopped by the falling in of the earth: several traditional stories are told, and almost universally believed, by the inhabitants hereabouts, of ridiculous pranks which have been played by several goblins and ghosts in this cave, and about this abbey; and, we can assure ye, we were not a little entertained with the honest simplicity of our credulous relaters. One  
side

side of the nef of the building, from north to south, under the middle tower, and some old pillars and arches, are all that are now left, except some small fragments, which are dispersed for above half a mile round, great part having been carried away, from time to time, to repair adjacent churches, or build gentlemens seats, though care was taken by the late Earl of Scarborough, to preserve what remains. These ruins, among which large trees are now grown up, and the contiguous borders, make a picture inexpressibly charming, especially when viewed with the lights and shadows they receive from a western sun; and its recluse situation, free from every noise, except the murmur of a limpid rivulet, together with the fragments of sepulchral monuments, and the gloomy shades of these venerable greens, ivy and yew, which creep up, and luxuriantly branch out, and mix with the beautiful whiteness of the rocks, give such a solemnity to this scene, as demands a serious reverence from the beholder, and inspires a contemplative melancholy, oftentimes pleasing as well as proper to indulge.

The stone of which this abbey was built, was dug out of the famous quarry near adjoining, so well known to masons by the name of Roch-abbey-stone, which for whiteness and beauty is scarce to be equalled.

*Rotherham*, an hundred an sixty-five miles from London. It is noted for its fine stone bridge over the river Dun, which is here increased by the river Rother, from whence the town took its name.

The church is a noble stone building, in the form of a cathedral, with a handsome spire steeple. The stone of which the church is built, is remarkable for its reddish colour, and in the church are handsome galleries, erected within these few years. Archbishop Rotherham, who was a native of this town,

town, and founded a college here, the remains of which are now converted into dwellings.

The navigation of the river here being very much improved, the trade of the town is considerably increased, and it is now famous for its iron-works, particularly a very large one belonging to Mr. Walker. Near the town are two collieries, out of which the iron ore is dug, as well as the coals to work it with: those works and collieries together, employ near five hundred hands. The ore is here worked into metal, and then into bar-iron, and the bars sent into sheffield to be worked, and to all parts of the country; this is one branch of their business. Another is the foundery, in which they run their ore into metal pigs, and then cast it into all sorts of boilers, pans, plough-shares, &c. &c. &c.

Besides the iron manufactory, they have a pottery, in which are made the white, cream-coloured, and tortoise-shell earthen ware. Great quantities of lime are likewise burnt in this town.

From a field (just out of the town) belonging to Mr. Tucker, is a most delightful prospect, which fails not to please the eye of the traveller. You look down a very bold descent upon an extensive valley, most exquisitely beautiful; chiefly meadows of admirable verdure, and all intersected with hedges and scattered trees. Three rivers wind through it in different directions, in the most pleasing manner imaginable; lost in some places among the trees, and breaking upon the eye in others, in a stile of picturesque elegance, easier conceived than expressed. They appear in eighteen different, and almost unconnected spots, insomuch, that the whole valley is ornamented with them, in a most charming manner. It is every way bounded by hills, waving one above another, scattered with villages, and cultivated to their tops. You look immediately  
down



down on one side upon Rotherham, and Sheffield is seen in the vale at the distance of six miles.

On the right of Rotherham, is

*Sheffield*, an hundred and fifty-nine miles from London. The direct road to this town is through Derby and Chesterfield. It is pleasantly situated on an eminence at the confluence of the rivers Sheaf and Dan, over each of which it has a stone bridge. That over the Dan is called Lady's-bridge, leading to Barnsley and Rotherham, supposed to have been so named from a religious house which formerly stood near it, and was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which was afterwards converted into alms-houses for poor widows : but when the bridge was widened, in 1762, these houses were pulled down. The Sheaf-bridge leads into Sheffield-park, and to Handsworth to the east.

This town is of note for its manufacture of hardware, and has been so for above three hundred years, particularly for files, knives or whittles, as appears from Chaucer, who speaking of the accoutrements of a miller, says,

“ A *Sheffield* whittle bare he in his hofe.”

The first mills for turning grindstones were likewise set up here.

“ The inhabitants of this town are computed to be about thirty thousand, the chief of which are employed in the hard-ware manufactory. The great branches are, the plaiting work, the cutlery, the lead work, and the silk-mill. In the plated branch some hundreds of hands are employed. In the cutlery branch are several sub-divisions, such as the razor, knite, scissar, lancet, flems, &c. &c. Among these, the grinders make the greatest earnings, eighteen, nineteen and twenty shillings a week, are common among them ; but this height of wages

is owing in a great measure to the danger of the employment; for the grindstones turn with such amazing velocity, that by the mere force of motion they now and then fly in pieces and kill the men at work on them. These accidents used to be more common than they are at present; but of late years they have invented a method of chaining down an iron over the stone on which the men work, in such a manner, that in case of the above mentioned accidents, the pieces of stone can only fly forwards, and not upwards; and yet men by the force of breaking, have been thrown back in a surprising manner, and their hands struck off by the shivers of the stone. The mechanism of these grinding-wheels are very curious; many grindstones are turned by a set of wheels which all receive their motion from one water wheel, increasing in velocity from the first movement to the last; and in the finishing wheel it is so great, that the eye cannot perceive the least motion.

“Here is likewise a silk-mill, a copy from the famous one at Derby, which employs an hundred and fifty-two hands, chiefly women and children. This mill works up an hundred and fifty pound of raw-silk a week all the year round, or seven thousand eight hundred per annum. The erection of the whole building, with all the mechanism it contains, cost about seven thousand pounds.

“The mills in this town are worthy the notice of the traveller, particularly the tilting mill, which is a blacksmith’s immense hammer in constant motion on an anvil, worked by water wheels, and by the same power, the bellows of a forge adjoining kept regularly blown. The force of this mechanism is prodigious; so great, that you cannot lay your hand upon a gate at three perches distance, without feeling a strong trembling motion, which is communicated to all the earth around.”\*

Here

\* Young.

Here was a castle formerly at the north east part of the town, where the two rivers meet; it was erected by Henry III. in which, or else in the manor house in the park, Mary Queen of Scots was prisoner sixteen or seventeen years. After the death of King Charles I. it was demolished, with divers others, by order of parliament. A copy of the capitulation is still preserved. Of the castle there are now very few vestiges remaining, except that the streets and places thereabouts still retain the name of Castle-hill, Castle-fold, Castle-green, Castle-lathe, &c.

The public affairs of the town are under the superintendence of seven of the principal inhabitants, who are called Regents, or Collectors, four of whom are of the established church, the other three dissenters. The corporation here concerns only the manufactory, styled, "The Company of Cutlers of Hallamshire," and is governed by a master, two wardens, and two searchers, or assistants. The master is elected annually the last Thursday in July, after having passed through the inferior offices; and a remarkable venison feast is held by him the first Thursday and Friday in September, on the former of which days the assembly opens for the season.

Here are three places of public worship, according to the church of England, viz. Trinity-church, St. Paul's chapel, and the chapel belonging to the Duke of Norfolk's hospital.

In Trinity-church are interred three Earls of Shrewsbury, and Judge Jessop, one of the nine Judges of Chester, and his Lady of Broomhall, near this town. The church is a very handsome Gothic structure, with a grand spire in the middle, has eight very tuneable bells, an excellent clock, and a set of chimes; within it consists of a nave, two side aisles, and two cross aisles at the west and east

east end of the choir; and a chancel. On the north side of the altar is the vestry and library. On the south, the monuments of the Earls of Shrewsbury; but it is very awkwardly seated.

St. Paul's chapel was an elegant modern structure, erected about forty years ago, through the benefaction of a thousand pounds, from Mr. Robert Downs, a silversmith in this town, together with the subscriptions of several other gentlemen in the town and neighbourhood.

It has a tower at the west end, with a small bell; within, it has a good organ, erected in the year 1755, and is handsomely pewed and galleried: it is a chapel of ease to Trinity-church. The curate's income arises from the seats, which is above two hundred pounds per annum, out of which forty pounds per annum is paid to the descendants of Mr. Robert Downs of Manchester, for ever.

The chapel at the Duke of Norfolk's hospital is principally designed for the benefit of the pensioners, who have daily prayers performed here by the governor, or his assistant, and two sermons on Sundays. The chapel extends from south to north, and is commodiously and uniformly pewed below. It has one aisle from north to south, and a handsome gallery at the north end. There are two doors opening to the east and west, and a small bell. The governor's income is about eighty pounds per annum.

The hospital consists of two quadrangles, (eighteen dwellings in each) of which the chapel forms the east and west division. It was first founded by Gilbert Earl of Shrewsbury, in the year 1673, according to his last will, in consideration, it is said, of the freeholders of Sheffield giving up to him their rights in a parcel of common near this place, now called Park-hill-side, on which there are now erected near two hundred tenements. This hospi-



tal, at its foundation, was for the benefit of fifteen men and fifteen women, old decayed house-keepers, for each of whom was provided a house and garden, an allowance of two shillings and sixpence a week, three cart-loads of coals every year, two new shirts or shifts, and a blue gown or loose coat every second year, and a purple gown and badge besides, every seventh year. But through the improvement of the estate a few years ago, three more dwellings were added to each quadrangle, and three men and three women pensioners more were admitted upon the foundation; and by a still further improvement of the estate, the trustees have been enabled to advance the pensioners pay, since Michaelmas 1763, to three shillings and sixpence a week. This hospital stands on the other side of the Sheaf, near the bridge.

Besides this, there is another hospital erected by Mr. Thomas Hollis, a merchant in London, (who, it is said, was a native of this town) in 1703, and has been improved by his descendants. It is for the benefit of sixteen poor cutlers widows. They have each a separate habitation, are allowed six pounds ten shillings a year each, which is paid in some measure, quarterly; two cart-loads of coals every year, and a brown gown and petticoat every second year. Upon the same foundation, four pounds a quarter is paid to a master for teaching forty boys to read English, and five pounds per annum to another master for teaching a number of boys to write during three or four of the summer months. There is a very good improveable estate belonging to this charity, which is under the management of thirteen trustees. The hospital is on the north side of the town, near the Don. Daily prayers are performed here.

At the north-east corner of Trinity church-yard is likewise a charity-school for the clothing, feeding,

ing, and instructing in the English tongue, twenty poor boys, from the age of seven till twelve. Their dress is a blue uniform, bands, and caps, as usual in such places. This charity is supported by a benefaction from the Duke of Norfolk, some testamentary legacies, and annual subscriptions. It is under the management of trustees.

About a quarter of a mile west from hence is a free grammar-school. The grant of its foundation was made by King James I. but it does not appear to have been finished till the year 1649. The certain stipend for the master is twenty pounds per annum, but by an improvement in the estate belonging to the school, the trustees have been enabled to allow every year what is called an augmentation of twenty pounds more : so likewise though the usher's certain stipend is but eleven pounds per annum, yet the augmentation advances it to about twenty pounds per annum. The head master has a handsome house adjoining to the school, and the school is at present in a flourishing state. A little below the grammar-school, to the north, is a writing-school, where sixty boys are taught writing and accompts free. The master's salary is sixteen pounds per annum, and a house. A necessary qualification for the head master's place is, that he has taken a degree in the University.

Here are likewise three meeting-houses for the Presbyterians, Independents, and Quakers ; besides a Methodist tabernacle and a Popish chapel. A large workhouse also, which contains at present about ninety poor people, besides out-pensioners.

About two years ago was erected, on the east side of the town, in Norfolk-street, a handsome assembly-room, and a large commodious theatre adjoining, by a joint subscription of about thirty of the townsmen, who are proprietors. The play-house will

will contain about eight hundred people, is handsomely decorated, and has some very good scenes belonging to it. The assembly-room is twenty yards long and nine wide, has three elegant lustres of cut glass, besides side-branches; and there is a card-room and other convenient offices belonging to it.

The Cutlers-hall is situate on the south side of the Trinity-church-yard, where all the business relating to the corporation is transacted, and the feast is held; and at the south-east corner of the church-yard is the town-hall, where the town's affairs are settled, and a sessions held every three years. Here is likewise a court of conscience for the recovery of small debts. The market is on Tuesdays, it is plentifully supplied with corn, butter, cattle, and fish, according to the season: the shambles are very convenient, and necessaries of life are as cheap here as in most other towns in England. They have two fairs, one on Tuesday in Trinity week, the other on November 28.

Fuel is both plentiful and cheap here, as there are many collieries in the neighbourhood of this town; no little advantage to the manufactures. A cart-load of large coals, containing ten corves,\* being brought to the town for five shillings and two pence, coals and carriage; four shillings for small.

There are near sixty streets, but the principal are, the High-street, Norfolk-street, Burgess-street, Fore-gate, and West-bar. The buildings are mostly of brick, and there are some good houses; but in general they look black, owing to the continued smoke from the forges, so that the newest buildings remain not long before they are discoloured. The towns arms are, a sheaf of arrows in a

\* A Corf of Coals is about equal to a bushel and a half or two bushels.

field argent. The cutlers arms are six cross daggers, with their points elevated. The Duke of Norfolk is Lord of the Manor; and the greatest part of the inhabitants in this town and its neighbourhood are his tenants.

Mr. Evelyn, in his *Treatise de Sylva*, mentions an oak tree which grew in the park here, which had above ten thousand feet of board in it; and another which when felled, was so vast, that two men on horseback, on each side of it, could not see the crown of each others hats,

Between Sheffield and Barnsley the country is fine, and the eye agreeably entertained with varied and beautiful landscapes. The soil is fertile and produces good crops; the farms in general lett from twenty to eighty pounds a year, and land rents from fourteen to twenty shillings an acre.

At *Barnsley*, an hundred and seventy-eight miles and an half from London; we join the road from Rotherham again. Barnsley is a little market town, well built of stone, and carries on a manufacture for wire and hard-ware. It is called *Black-Barnsley*, from its sooty aspect, but whether this appellation was given from its number of forges, or from its moors, which have a dusty complexion, like Black-heath and others, is not certain.

The Earl of Strafford has a fine seat near Barnsley; it is now called Wentworth-castle, but noted for its being the ancient Stainborough. The house was built by the late Earl; the new front to the lawn is one of the most beautiful in the world; it is surprizingly light and elegant; the portico, supported by six pillars of the Corinthian order, is exceedingly elegant; the triangular cornice inclosing the arms as light as possible; the ballustrade gives a fine effect to the whole building, which is exceeded by few in lightness, unity of parts, and that pleasing simplicity which must strike every beholder.

“ The



The hall is forty by forty, the ceiling supported by very handsome Corinthian pillars; and divided into compartments by cornices handsomely worked and gilt; the divisions painted in a pleasing manner. On the left hand you enter an anti-chamber, twenty feet square; then a bed-chamber of the same size; and, thirdly, a drawing-room of the like dimension; the pier-glass is large, but the frame rather in a heavy stile. Over the chimney is some carving by Gibbons.

"The other side of the hall opens into a drawing-room forty by twenty-five. The chimney-piece exceedingly elegant; the cornice surrounds a plate of Siena marble, upon which is a beautiful festoon of flowers in white; it is supported with two pillars of Siena wreathed with white, than which nothing can have a better effect. The door-cases are very neatly carved and gilt. Here are three fine slabs; one of Egyptian granate, and two of Siena marble; also several pictures.

Carlo Maratt. David with Goliath's head; supposed by this master; fine.

Salvator Rosa. Two cattle pieces, exceedingly fine, and in a more finished and agreeable stile, than what is commonly seen of this master.

Guido. Diana, copied from this master, the naked body is painted well, but the arms in the blue drapery very ill done; it is not at first sight clear whether the figure has a right arm or not.

Paulo Matea. Abraham.

Dining-room, twenty-five by thirty. Here is found the great Earl of Strafford, by Vandyke; the expression of the countenance and the painting of the hands very fine.

Going up stairs, (the stair-case is so lofty as to pain the eye) you enter the gallery, one of the most beautiful rooms in England. It is an hundred and eighty feet long, by twenty-four broad, and thirty

thirty high. It is in three divisions; a ~~large~~ one in the centre, and small one at each end. This circumstance renders the breadth not of a bad proportion, which would otherwise be much too narrow: the division is by very magnificent pillars of marble, with gilt capitals: in the spaces between these pillars and the wall, are statues.

Apollo.

An Egyptian priestess.

Bacchus, and

Ceres.

" This noble gallery is designed and used as a rendezvous-table, and an admirable one it is; one end is furnished for music, and the other with a billiard-table: this is the stile in which such rooms should always be regulated. At each end is a very elegant Venetian window, contrived (like several others in the house) to admit the air by sliding down the pannel under the centre part of it. The cornices of the end-divisions are of marble, richly ornamented. Here are several valuable pictures.

Burgognone. Two battles.

Vandyke. Charles I. in the Isle of Wight; very fine.

Bassan. Wisemens Offerings.

Carlo Maratt. Himself, and a Turkish lady kept by him; the lady is beautiful and graceful; Carlo had a better taste than Rubens.

Titian. Miracle by St. Paul; group and colouring very fine.

Carlo Maratt. Christ in the garden, and the bloody issue cured; good.

Michael Angelo. Two sharpeners cheating a gentleman at cards; expressive. Vision of St. John, the colouring and attitude bad.

" Lord Strafford's library is a good room, thirty by twenty, and the book-cases well disposed.

" Her

“ Her ladyship’s dressing-room is extremely handsome, about twenty-five feet square, hung with blue India paper; the cornice, cieling and ornaments, all extremely pretty; the toilette boxes of gold, and fine.

“ Her ladyship’s reading closet is elegant, hung with a painted fatten, and the cieling in Mosaics festooned with honeysuckles; the cornice of glass painted with flowers: it is a sweet little room, and must please every spectator. On the other side of the dressing-room is a bird-closet, in which are many cages of singing birds. The bed-chamber, twenty-five square, is handsome; and the whole apartment very pleasing.

“ But Wentworth-castle is more famous for the beauties of the ornamented environs, than for those of the house, though the front is superior to many. The water and the woods adjoining are sketched with great taste. The first extends through the park in a meandering course, and wherever it is viewed, the terminations are no where seen, having every where the effect of a real and very beautiful river; the groves of oaks fill up the bends of the stream in the justest style. Here advancing thick to the very banks of the water; there appearing at a distance, breaking a way to a few scattered trees in some spots, and in others joining the branches in the most solemn brownness. The water, in many places, is seen from the house, between the trees of several scattered clumps, most picturesquely; in others, it is quite lost behind the hills, and breaks every where upon the view in a stile that cannot be too much admired.

“ The shrubbery that adjoins the house is disposed with the utmost taste. The waving slopes dotted with firs, pines, &c. are pretty, and the temple is fixed on so beautiful a spot, as to command

mand a sweet landscape of the park, and the rich prospect of adjacent country, which rises in a bold manner, and presents an admirable view of cultivated hills.

“ Winding up the hill among the plantations and woods, which are laid out in an agreeable manner, we came to the bowling-green, which is thickly encompassed with ever-greens; with a very light and pretty Chinese temple on one side of it; and from thence cross a dark walk catching a most beautiful view of a bank of a distant wood. The next object is a statue of Ceres in a retired spot, the arcade appearing with a good effect, and through the three divisions of it, the distant prospect is seen very finely. The lawn which leads up to the castle is elegant, there is a chump of firs on one side of it, through which the distant prospect is caught; and the above mentioned statue of Ceres, in the hollow of a dark grove; one among the few instances of statues being employed in gardens with real taste. From the platform of grass within the castle walls (in the centre of which is the statue of the late earl who built it) over the battlements you behold a surprizing prospect on whichever side you look; but the view which pleases me best, is that opposite the entrance, where you look down upon a valley which is extensive, finely bounded by rising cultivated hills, and very complete in being commanded at a single look, notwithstanding its vast variety,

“ Within the menagerie, at the bottom of the park, is a most pleasing shrubbery, extremely sequestered, cool, shady, and agreeably contrasted to that by the house from which so much distant prospect is beheld: the latter is what may be called fine; but the former is agreeable. We proceeded through the menagerie (which is pretty well stocked with pheasants, &c.) to the bottom of the



shrubbery, where is an alcove in a sequestered situation; in front of it the body of a large oak is seen at the end of a walk in a just stile; but on approaching it, three more are caught in the same manner, which, from uniformity in such merely rural and natural objects, displeases at the very first sight. The shrubbery, or rather plantation, is spread over two fine slopes, the valley between which is a long winding hollow dale, exquisitely beautiful; the banks are thickly covered with great numbers of very fine oaks, whose noble branches in some places almost join over the grass lawn which winds beneath them; at the upper end is a Gothic temple, over a little grot, which forms an arch, and together have a most pleasing effect; on a near view, this temple is found a light and airy building. Behind it is a water sweetly situated, surrounded by hanging wood in a beautiful manner, an island in it prettily planted; and the bank on the left side rising from the water, and scattered with fine oaks. From the seat of the river God; (the stream by the by is too small to be sanctified) the view into the park is pretty, congenial with the spot, and the temple caught in proper stile.”\*

*Almondbury*, in the road from hence to Halifax, is noted for being a famous town in the time of the Romans, called *Cambodunum*. Mr. *Camden* calls it a Royal town, and says it had a cathedral church in it dedicated to St. Alban, from whom it was called *Albanbury*, and, by corruption, *Almondbury*. The ruins of an old Roman work, with a fortification, are still to be seen, on a remarkable hill, called *Castle-hill*. About a mile south of *Almondbury*, is *Woodsom-hall*, the seat of Sir John Ligsterkage, Bart.

\* Young.

*Hutbersfield,*

*Hutbersfield*, an hundred and ninety-five miles and a half from London, is noted for being one of the six towns where the great clothing trade is carried on. They have a market here for kerfies and plains. A hall has been lately erected here, after the example of Leeds. It is built in a circular form, with a street in the middle, which divides the area, within the building, into two equal parts.

The windows are all on the inner part of the building, for the greater security against thieves; but the greatest fault in this construction is the want of a sufficient light.

*Hallifax*, an hundred and ninety-nine miles and an half from London, stands on the left side of the river Calder, (of which hereafter) extending from east to west, upon the gentle descent of a hill. It is the most populous parish in England, if not the most extensive, being twelve miles in diameter and thirty in circumference, and it has twelve chapels of ease under the mother church of Hallifax, which is a vicarage, besides sixteen meeting-houses, which all, except the Quakers, they call chapels, and most of them have bells and burying-grounds.

This town had but thirty houses in it in the year 1443, but in the next century it was so greatly increased, that they sent out twelve thousand men in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, to join her forces to fight against the popish rebels, under the Earl of Westmoreland. This circumstance they particularly mentioned in their favour, when they petitioned that Queen, to grant them some certain privileges. In *Camden's* time, they used to say, they could reckon more men in their parish, than any kind of animals whatever. This great increase of inhabitants is thus accounted for by that author, by admiring the industry of the people, who, "notwithstanding a barren unprofitable soil to live

live in, (says he) had so flourished by the cloth trade, (which they had not fallen to above seventy years) that they are very rich, and have gained a reputation for it above their neighbours."

If the increase of people and riches were so great in those times, how much more must they now be, since their trade is so vastly increased by the great demand of kerseys for clothing our armies abroad. It is affirmed by some, that the increase is a fourth within these seventy or eighty years, which has been greatly assisted by the manufacture of shalloons, which they have entered into, of which few, if ever any, were ever made in those parts before. It has been calculated, that no less than an hundred thousand pieces are made in a year in this parish only, besides as great a quantity of kerseys as before: it being confidently asserted that one dealer here, has traded by commission for sixty thousand pounds a year for kerseys only, to be exported to Holland and Hamburgh. Besides this increase they have multiplied within these few years by another addition, the people of a neighbouring part having drove away about four thousand Irish manufacturers, who, with about two thousand others, accompanying them, settled here.

The people in this and the neighbouring towns being thus so greatly employed in the woollen manufacture, are said to pay but little attention to agriculture, and that they sow little more corn than will keep their poultry; they also feed but few oxen and sheep. The consequence of this is, their markets are supplied with corn chiefly out of the East Riding, Lincolnshire, and Nottinghamshire; their black cattle from thence and Lancashire; their sheep and mutton from the adjacent counties; their butter from the East and North Ridings; and their cheese from Cheshire and Warwickshire.

Prodigious

Prodigious numbers of people throng to the September and October markets; when the clothiers sell their manufactures, and buy up as many oxen as will serve their families for the whole year, which they used to drive home, kill, salt, and hang up in the smoke to dry. This was therefore their common diet; but now they live more upon salt-fish.

The church is a stately venerable old pile, with many very extraordinary monuments in it, but most of them of great antiquity. Here is a very good hospital, and a work house of an antient establishment: besides these there are several charities of the like sort in different parts of the parish.

This town gave birth to John of Hallifax, or *de Sacro Bosco*, the chief mathematician of his age, who was buried at the charge of the University of Paris; and to the late Archbishop Tillotson, whose memory and works will ever be revered by the good and rational Christian.

The ancient bye-law of this place, to prevent the stealing of cloth, has something in it very remarkable; and though it has been long set aside, yet the following account of it may not be deemed unnecessary:

The woollen manufacture was erected here about the year 1480, when King Henry VII. caused an act to pass, prohibiting the exportation of unwrought wool, and to encourage foreign manufacturers to settle in England; several of whom, coming over, established different manufactures of cloths in different parts of the kingdom, as that of bays at Colchester, says at Sudbury, broad cloth in Wilts, and other counties; and the trade of kerseys and narrow cloth at this place, and other adjacent towns. And as, at the time when this trade began, nothing was more frequent than for young workmen to leave their cloths out all night upon  
tinters,



tenters, (which is frequently done, at present, for the purpose of drying them; a work of time in damp weather) this gave an opportunity for idle fellows to steal them, whereupon a severe law was made against stealing cloth, which gave the power of life and death into the hands of the magistrates of Hallifax, if the offender came within the meaning of the three following cases.

1. *Hand-babend*; that is, when the criminal was taken in the very fact.

2. *Back-berond*; that is, when the cloth was found upon him.

3. *Confessond*; when they owned the fact.

The fact likewise to be committed within the liberties or precincts of the forest of Hardwick; and the value of the goods stolen was to be above thirteen pence halfpenny.

When the criminal was taken, he was brought before the magistrates of the town; and they judged, sentenced, and executed the offender, or cleared him, within three market days. If the offence was committed out of the vicarage, but within the bounds of the forest, then there were Frithbourgers also to judge of the fact, who were to be summoned out of the Forestholders, as they are called, who were to hold of that Frith, that is, of the Forest. If they acquitted him of the fact, he was immediately discharged; if they condemned him, nobody could reprieve him but the town. The country people were, it seems, so terrified at the severity of this proceeding, that hence came that proverbial Litany, which was used all over Yorkshire;

“ From Hell, Hull, and Hallifax,  
Good Lord deliver us.”

Hull was included in this petition, on account of their rigid discipline to beggars; for they

they whipt out the foreign poor, and set their own to work.

The manner of execution was very remarkable, by an axe drawn up by a pulley, and fastened with a pin to the side of a wooden engine; which when pulled out, the axe fell swiftly down, and did its office.

The engine is now gone; but the basis on which it stood still remains, being a square foundation of stone, to which you go up by steps. The engine was removed, as we are told, in the year 1620, during the reign of King James I. The axe is still to be seen in the goal of this town.

In the reign of the same Prince, the Earl of Morton, Regent of Scotland, passing through Hallifax, and seeing one of these executions, caused a model to be taken, and carried into his own country, where it is made use of at this day. But that Lord's own head was the first that was cut off with it, on June 2, 1581; and, it being many years before that happened, the engine got the name of the *Maiden*, before it was handselled by the execution of the said Earl; and this it retains, though it has cut off many an head since.

The ways to Hallifax used to be exceedingly bad, and, except at the west entrance, almost inaccessible; but of late years they have been much mended; and several acts of parliament have passed very lately, which will greatly increase the conveniencies of the people thereabouts, as well as improve its commerce and communication all around it, to Lancaster, as well as to Leeds, Doncaster, and all the great trading towns, even to the city of York itself.

Near *Kirklees*, a small village, situate upon the Calder, about six miles from Hallifax, is the funeral monument of the famous Robinhood, with  
the

the following inscription; and upon the moor, are his butts, two hills so called, about a quarter of a mile asunder.

Here undernead dislaid stean  
Lais Robert Erl of Huntingtun.  
Nea arcir ver as hie sa geud,  
An Pipl kauld im Robin Heud:  
Lick Utlawz hi an his Men  
Vil England never see again.

North-east from Hallifax is the town of *Bradford*, it has a market, and is noted for having given birth to Dr. Sharp, the good Archbishop of York. A large porter brew-house has here been erected within these few years, where they brew that liquor in almost as great perfection as in London.

*Skipton in Craven*, two hundred and twenty four miles from London, is situated near the river *Ara*, about the middle of that part of the county called *Craven*, so named from its being a very hilly and craggy country, the word being derived from the British *Craig*, i. e. a rock.

*Skipton* is a handsome and healthy town, considering the manner of building in these mountainous parts; the market is well frequented and supplied, and had formerly a market built by Robert de Rumsey; it came afterwards into the possession of Robert de Clifford, ancestor of the Earls of Cumberland; several of which family were interred here, particularly George Clifford, who had a monument erected here for him. He was a very famous sailor in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and performed nine voyages; most of them to the West Indies; and left only one child, Anne Countess of Pembroke, Dorset and Montgomery, who died in 1675, after having lived to build or repair six ancient castles, to erect seven chapels and churches, and richly to endow twelve stately hospitals.

The

*Settle*, two hundred and thirty-nine miles and an half from London. It is a much better town than travellers expect to meet with in this part of the country, and has a market on Tuesdays. It is situate on the Ribble, at the foot of the hills, which part this county from Lancashire. Another road to Hornby parts off at Skipton, and leads through

This castle is now in ruins, which is of great extent and variety; the approach to it fills the eye with no unpleasing picture of majestic decay, and presents several singular and fantastical forms, from the ruinous and disjointed manner in which it now hangs together.

 $\dot{R}$  r

marched



marched at the head of four thousand men for Lancashire, in his way to London, in order to demand redress of the King for injuries done his son, by the Queen and her council; and here, according to *Stowe*, the Bastard Falconbridge was beheaded. *Gosse* gives us the following account of its present form:

"Middleham Castle consists of an envelope or outer work, fortified with four towers, enclosing a body or keep. This envelope is in figure a right angled parallelogram of two hundred and ten feet by an hundred and seventy-five; its greatest length running north and south, and each of its sides facing one of the cardinal points of the compass. It has four right-lined towers of different magnitudes, one at each angle; but at the extremity of the south-westernmost there is the addition of a round one. A great part of the east side of this building is fallen down.

"Within this, in the centre, stands the keep, or what were the state apartments; the outer part being commonly allotted for servants lodgings, stables, and offices. This building, which is much higher than the envelope, is of a shape similar to it, except that besides a kind of turret at each angle, there are two others on its sides, one on the south and the other on the east. The first, which is a small one, is near the centre; the other, much larger, joins to the turret on the south-east angle; it is about ten or twelve feet higher than the adjoining wall, which measures about fifty-five feet, and was, probably, when entire, some feet higher.

"The main building is unequally divided by a wall which runs from north to south. Here still remains the broken stairs, which the boys in their pastime frequently ascended to frolic on the top of the ruins, though an exercise attended with many hair-breadth escapes. A few years ago, a cow, of genius

genius we suppose, (pardon, gentle reader, a moment's trespass on the dignity of history) led by the allurements of ivy, or some such botanical idea, or excited by her love of a prospect or antiquity, elevated herself to a situation, which, however she might approve, was no ways congenial with the taste or ambition of her incurious master. A council being held how to avert the imminent danger to which she stood exposed, it was resolved at last to leave the mode of retreat to her own judgment; which she accordingly performed with the utmost address, to the no small amusement of the wondering crowd."

*Leland* mentions many trees growing in his time in Middleham Park, of which few or none remain. He also says, that this was in his time the finest castle in Richmondshire, except Bolton; but in this remark he could only mean in respect to its wear and preservation, since in magnitude Middleham had eminently the advantage.

Middleham-castle commands a fine view of the woods and finely scattered villages. The mazy progress of the Eure appears to great advantage, winding through spacious meads, on the eastern part of the dale, whilst the sight stretching over the great plain of Mowbray (including the country about Bedale, Northallerton, and Thirsk) loses itself among the hills of Cleveland, bordering on the eastern sea.

Ascending from the Castle of Middleham towards the south, there stands, at the distance of about one third of a mile, two nearly adjoining eminences, evidently military, supposed by some to have been the site of an outwork, serving as an appendage to the castle; but as that mode of defence was not in vogue previous to the use of gunpowder, it is presumed that it is more probable they

they were formed for the purposes of canon, as their commanding situation, and distance from the castle, seem to correspond with that view. The entrance into this castle was by a strong arched gate-way, on the north side next the town. The remains of a moat now appear on the south and east sides; but the ditch is daily filling up with weeds and rubbish. At a station near the middle distances of the eminences, above described, and the castle walls afford a very distinct loud echo.

We must again return to the south part of the county, to take notice of

*Wentworth-house*, the palace of the Marquis of Rockingham, is situated between Rotherham and Barnsley, in the midst of a very beautiful country, and in a park that is one of the most exquisite spots in the world. It consists of an irregular quadrangle, inclosing three courts, with two grand fronts: the principal one to the park extends in a line upwards of six hundred feet, forming a centre and two wings. Nothing in architecture can be finer than this centre, which extends nineteen windows. In the middle, a noble portico projects twenty feet, and is sixty long in the area; six magnificent Corinthian pillars support it in front, and one at each end: this portico is lightness itself: the projection is bold, and when viewed obliquely from one side, admits the light through the pillars at the ends, which has a most happy effect, and adds greatly to the lightness of the edifice.

The *timpanum* is excellently proportioned; at the points are three very light statues; the cornice, the arms and the capitals of the pillars admirably executed. A *ballustrade* crowns the rest of the front; at each end a statue, and between them vases; the whole uniting to form a centre at once pleasing and magnificent; in which lightness vies with grandeur, and simplicity with elegance,

The

The rustic floor consists of a very large arcade, and two suites of rooms. In the arcade is a fine group in statuary, containing three figures as large as life, in which one of gigantic stature is getting the better of two others; the sculptor is Foggini; the upper parts of the two lower figures are finely executed; the turn of the backs, and the expression of the countenances, good; the forced struggling attitude of the hinder one very great, especially that of pushing his hand against the body of his antagonist. On the left of this arcade is the common apartment; first, a supping-room, thirty by twenty-two, and fourteen high; a drawing-room, thirty-three by twenty-five; anti-room to the dining-room and the dining-room, thirty-six by twenty-five. On the other side, offices for the steward, butlers, &c. Upon this floor are a great number of rooms of all sorts; and, among others, many admirable good apartments, of anti-room, dressing-room, bed-chamber; furnished with great elegance in velvets, damasks, &c. &c. and gilt and carved ornaments.

Upon the principal floor you enter first the grand hall, which is beyond all comparison, the finest room in England; it is sixty feet square and forty high; a gallery ten feet wide is carried around the whole, which leaves the area a cube of forty feet; this circumstance gives it a magnificence unmatched in any other hall. The gallery is supported by eighteen very noble Ionic fluted pillars, incrusting with a paste, representing in the most natural manner several marbles. The shafts are of Siena, and so admirably imitated as not to be distinguished from reality by the most experienced and scrutinizing eye; the capitals of white marble, and the square of the bases of verd antique. Between the pillars are eight niches, with as many statues placed in them. Over them are very elegant



gant relievos in pannels, from the designs of Mr. Stewart. Above the gallery are eighteen Corinthian pilasters, which are also to be incrusted with the imitation of marbles: between the shafts are pannels struck in stucco, and between the capitals festoons in the same, in a stile which cannot fail of pleasing. The cieling is of compartments in stucco, admirably executed. His lordship designs a floor in compartments, answerable to the cieling, of the same workmanship as the columns.—To the left of this noble hall is a grand suite of apartments; containing,

First, a supping-room, forty feet by twenty-two. The cieling, compartments in stucco; the centre a plain large oblong; at each end a square, in which is a most elegant relievo, representing two angels supporting an urned cup of flowers resting on the head of an eagle; the divisions on each side containing scrolls. The chimney-piece very handsome; the frieze containing the Rockingham supporters, with a plain shield, in white marble, finely polished; the columns festooned in the same.

Second, a drawing-room, thirty-five by twenty-three. The cieling coved in stucco; the centre an oval in an oblong, with medallions in the corners of the square cut by the oval, inclosed in wreaths of laurel, surrounded by scrolls; the cove rising to it struck in small octagon compartments, chequered by little squares, extremely elegant. The cornice, frieze, and architrave of the wainscot beautifully carved; nothing more elegant of the kind than the scroll of carving on the frieze. The chimney-piece of white marble, polished; the cornice supported by figures of captives in the same; on the frieze, festoons of fruit and flowers; on each side a vase, on which are four small but elegant figures, relievo, something in the attitude of the Hours in the Aurora of Guido.

Third,

Third, a dining-room, forty feet square; the cieling of stucco; in the centre a large octagon; around it are eight divisions, within four of which are relievos of boys supporting a shield, inclosing a head in a blaze, by a wreath of fruit; over it a basket of flowers on a shell inverted; and under it an eagle spreading its wings. In the other division are rays in circles of fret-work. The chimney-piece large and handsome, of white polished marble; above it architectural ornaments; a cornice, &c. supported by Corinthian pillars; the whole finely carved, and surrounding a space left for a picture. In the walls of the room are pannels in stucco, of a bold and spirited design, and like the cieling, exceedingly well executed. Over the doors are six historical relievos; in the centre on each side a large frame-work for a picture, by which are pannels, inclosing in wreaths four medallions;

Theocritus, Hector, Agamemnon, Hyacinthus.

On one side the chimney-piece, in the same stile,

Hamilcar,

And on the other,

Troilus.

Returning to the grand hall, you enter from the other side another suite.

First, an anti-room, thirty by twenty; the cieling finely finished in stucco.

Secondly, the grand drawing-room, thirty-six square; ceiling the same.

Third, a dressing-room, thirty by twenty-five; the cieling coved in stucco; the centre an oval cut in a square, elegantly decorated; the cove rising to it mosaic'd in small squares; designed with great taste.

Fourth, the state bed-chamber, twenty-five square.

Fifth,

Fifth, another dressing-room, sixteen square, communicating with the passage which runs behind the suite of apartments.

At the other end of the house, behind the great dining-room, is the India apartment, a bed-chamber fifteen square, with a dressing-room the same; the chimney-piece extremely handsome; pillars of Siena marble.

From the other corner of the hall, on the right hand you enter by a large passage; the gallery, or common rendezvous room an hundred and thirty feet by eighteen, hung with India paper, a most useful and agreeable room. To the right this opens into the new damask apartment, consisting of a bed-chamber and two dressing-rooms, one of the latter twenty-seven feet by eighteen. The chimney-piece surprizingly elegant; a border of Siena marble, surrounded by compartments of a black marble ground, inlaid with flowers, fruit, and birds of marble in their natural colours; most exquisitely finished. The bed-chamber, twenty-seven by fifteen, the other dressing-room, (both open into the gallery) twenty-eight by eighteen; the chimney-piece pilasters of Siena, with white polished capitals supporting the cornice of white and Siena marble; the whole very elegant: over it a copy, from Vandyke, of Charles the First's Queen, by Lady Fitzwilliams, exceedingly well done, the face, hair, and drapery excellent.—Here is one of the most curious cabinets in England; it is in architectural divisions of a centre and two wings, on a a basement story of drawers; a cornice finely wrought of ebony, the frieze of ivory, and the architecture of tortoise shell, supported by Corinthian fluted pillars of tortoise-shell and ebony carved in reliefs, the capitals and bases gilt. The entrance of the building rustics in tortoise-shell,  
the

the divisions in ivory. By looking in the centre on either side, is a deception of perspective; the design is very fine, and the workmanship excellent.

On the other side of the gallery, you open into a blue damask dressing-room, twenty-five by twenty-four; here are two pictures by Mr. West, which seem to be in his happiest manner; Diana and Endymion, and Cymon and Iphigene. Likewise a small relief in alabaster of a Cupid in a car, drawn by panthers: his attitude very pleasing.—Next is the chintz bed-chamber, twenty-four by twenty.

After this comes the yellow damask apartment. The dressing-room eighteen square; and the bed-chamber twenty-four by eighteen. Upon a cabinet in this room is a small Venus in white marble; fine, delicate, and pleasing; the drapery under her breast beautiful.

The red and white apartment, nineteen square; and a dressing-room twenty by nineteen. Then into the last apartment on this side, very handsomely furnished, twenty by eighteen, and twenty-two by twenty.

The library sixty by twenty, and nobly filled.

There are here a vast number of books of prints, architecture and medals; of the last, his lordship has one of the greatest collections in England.

From the library is a direct communication, on one side, with the preceding rooms, and on the other with the crimson velvet apartment; consisting of, first, an anti-room, painted in obscura in blue, in a very neat taste, twenty-three feet square; this opens into a bed-chamber of the same dimensions, the ornaments of the bed, the glass frames, &c. &c. of gilt carving, well executed; then the dressing-room twenty-three by fifteen.

The attic story consists of complete sets of apartments, of bed-chamber and dressing-room; including those of Lord and Lady Rockingham, which



are four dressing-rooms and a bed-chamber : in his Lordship's anti-room hangs the famous picture of the Earl of Strafford and his secretary, by Vandyke ; and incomparably fine it is. Also an excellent portrait of an old servant, by Stubbs. The rooms on this floor are all spacious, many of thirty-six by thirty, thirty by twenty-five, &c. &c. in general well proportioned, and the furniture rich and elegant,

But the park and environs of Wentworth-house, are, if any thing, more noble than the edifice itself ; for which way soever you approach, very magnificent woods, spreading waters, and elegant temples break upon the eye at every angle.

Many of the objects are viewed to the greatest advantage by taking the principal entrance from Rotherham ; this approach is as beautiful as can be conceived. At the very entrance of the park, the prospect is delicious : in front you look full upon a noble range of hills, dales, lakes and woods, the house magnificently situated in the centre of the whole. The eye naturally falls into the valley before you, through which the water winds in a noble stile. On the opposite side is a vast sweep of rising slopes, finely scattered with trees, up to the house, which is here seen distinctly, and stands in the point of grandeur, from whence it seems to command all the surrounding country. The woods stretching away above, below, and to the right and left with inconceivable magnificence ; from the pyramid on one side, which rises from the centre of a great wood, quite around to your left hand, where they join one of above an hundred acres hanging on the side of a vast hill, and forming altogether an amphitheatrical prospect, the beauties of which are much easier imagined than described. In one place the rustic temple crowns the point of a waving hill, and in another the Ionic one appears with  
a light-

a lightness that decorates the surrounding groves.

Descending from hence to the wood beneath you, which hangs towards the valley, and through which the road leads; before you enter, another view breaks upon the eye, which cannot but delight it. First, the water winding through the valley in a very beautiful manner; on the other side a fine slope rising to the rustic temple, most elegantly backed with a dark spreading wood. To the right a range of plantations, covering a whole sweep of hill, and near the summit, the pyramid raising its bold head from a dark bosom of surrounding wood. In the centre of the view, in a gradual opening, among the hills, appears the house; the situation wonderfully fine. Turning a little to the left, several woods, which from other points are seen distinct, here appear to join, and form a vast body of noble oaks, rising from the very edge of the water to the summit of the hills, on the left of the house. The Ionic temple at the end, most happily placed in a spot from whence it throws an elegance over the whole landscape.

The road entering, winds through the wood before mentioned; but here we must detain the reader a short time, for no grove at Wentworth is without its scenes of pleasing retirement.—This wood is cut into winding walks, of which there is a great variety; in one part of it, on a small hill of shaven grass, is a house for repasts in hot weather. The dining room is thirty-two feet by sixteen, very neatly fitted up, the chimney-pieces of white marble of a judicious simplicity; the bow-window remarkably light and airy. Adjoining is a little drawing-room, hung with India paper, and a large closet with book-cases; beneath are a kitchen and other offices. From hence a walk winds to the aviary, which is a light Chinese building of a very  
pleasing

pleasing design; it is stocked with Canary and other foreign birds, which are kept alive in winter by means of hot walls at the back of the building; the front is open net work in compartments. In one part of the wood is an octagon temple in a small lawn: and the walk winds in another place over a bridge of rock-work, which is thrown over a small water, thickly surrounded with trees.

Upon coming out of this wood, the objects all receive a variation at once; the plantations bear in different directions, but continue their noble appearance; for your eye rises over a fine bank of wood to the Ionic temple, which here seems dropped by the hand of grace in the very spot where taste herself would wish it to be seen.

The road from hence is to wind over the hill, and take a slanting course down to the octagon temple; a very elegant little building, sweetly situated in a little valley, commanding the bends of shore among the groves, and the hanging woods which crown the surrounding hills. Not far from this temple, a magnificent bridge is to be thrown over the water, and the road then to be traced through another wood, which is full of a great number of the most venerable oaks in England; one of which is nineteen feet in circumference; and a great many of them near as large, with noble stems of a majestic height. After this it will gain an oblique view of the grand front of the house, and wind up to it in such a line, that the feet may never travel in a direction that the eye has before commanded.

The southern view deserves particular attention: From hence there is a prospect of vallies all scattered with villages; with cultivated hills arising on every side to the clouds: the house appears in the centre of nine or ten vast hanging and other woods, which have a genuine magnificence more noble than

than can easily be conceived. The pyramid and temples are scattered over the scene, and give it just the air of liveliness which is consistent with the grandeur of the extent. This view is, perhaps, the most beautiful in Yorkshire; for the house, park and woods, form a circular connected landscape, equally beautiful and grand, while the surrounding country exhibits Arcadian scenes, smiling with cultivation, and endless in variety.

From this point, moving to the left, the landscapes perpetually vary, each object taking a new appearance, and every one truly pleasing. Crossing a beautiful irriguous valley, you rise to the new plantation, at the west end of the park, from whence a new scene is beheld equal to any of the rest. You look down over a fine slope on the water, and catch it at several points, breaking upon the eye through the scattered trees; the octagon temple appearing on its bank, in a situation extremely well contrasted to the elevated ones of the other buildings. To the left, the woods rise in a noble manner, and joining those by the house have a very fine effect; the Ionic temple just lifting its dome above them in an exquisite taste. In front, the rustic temple is seen on a hill backed with wood in the most pleasing stile, and higher still, the pyramid rising out of more lofty woods; the effect altogether glorious. To the right, the eye is feasted with a beautiful variety of cultivated hills.

Having often mentioned the pyramid, it is requisite to add, that it is a triangular tower, about two hundred feet high, which was built on the summit of a very fine hill, at a distance from the house. There is a winding stair-case up it, and from the top a most astonishing prospect around the whole country breaks at once upon the spectator: the house, and all its surrounding hills,  
woods,



woods, waters, temples, &c. are viewed at one glance, and around them an amazing tract of cultivated inclosures. A view scarcely to be exceeded. The following inscription is engraven over the entrance.

1748.

" This pyramidal building was erected by his MAJESTY'S most dutiful subject, THOMAS Marquis of ROCKINGHAM, &c. In grateful respect to the preserver of our religion, laws and liberties, KING GEORGE THE SECOND, who, by the blessing of GOD, having subdued a most unnatural rebellion in Britain, anno 1746, maintains the balance of power and settles a just and honourable peace in Europe."

1748.

Near it is a small but very neat room, looking down upon a beautiful valley, and over a fine and extensive prospect, where Lady Rockingham sometimes drinks tea.

At no great distance from the pyramid is the arch, another building, which was raised as an object to decorate the view from the Ionic temple.

Just by this temple is the menagery in front of the green-house, containing a prodigious number of foreign birds, particularly gold and pencil pheasants, cockatoos, Mollacca doves, &c. &c. The green-house is very spacious, and behind it a neat agreeable room for drinking tea.—Advancing from hence down the terras, the eye is continually feasting with an exceeding fine and various prospect of hills, dales, winding water, hanging woods, temples, and noble sweeps of park; and at the end of it a most delicious view, quite different from any seen elsewhere; for you look down immediately upon a falling valley, beautifully intersected with

with various sheets of water, fringed with trees : over this bird's-eye landscape, on one side, rises a sloping hill, scattered with single trees, and on the other a range of woods : under them, in the valley, stands the octagon temple ; to the left, the rustic one upon the summit of an unplanted hill, admirably contrasted to the others, which are either decorated with clumps, or quite covered with spreading woods.

Upon the whole, Wentworth is in every respect one of the finest places in the kingdom : in some, the house is the object of curiosity ; in others, a park is admired. The ornamental buildings give a reputation to one, and a general beauty of prospect to the other—but all are united here.

*Wakefield*, ten miles from Barnsley, and one hundred and eighty-eight miles and an half from London, is a large well-built town, situate upon the river Calder, over which is a handsome stone bridge, on which King Edward IV. erected a chapel in memory of his father Richard, Duke of York, and others of his friends, slain not far off in the battle of 1349. The chapel is ten yards long, and six broad ; and though very much defaced by time, appears to have been wrought in a curious manner. A little above the bridge is a wash-dam, over which the waters rolling form an admirable cascade of great length.

This town was famous in Camden's time, for its extent, neat buildings, great markets and manufacture of cloth. It is now in a thriving condition, and consists chiefly of three great streets, which meet in a centre near the church, where might be formed a very spacious market place, but the town being exceeding populous, is so crowded with buildings, that there is only a small area round the market-cross, which is a very elegant building, being an open colonade of the Doric order, supporting

porting a dome, to which you ascend by an open circular pair of stairs, in the center of the building. This brings you to a room, which receives light from a turret on the top, and may be called the Town-hall; for here they transact all their public business.

The church, which was repaired in the year 1724, is a large and lofty Gothic structure, with a spire, the highest in the county. It has been said, by some, but erroneously, that there are more people in this town than in the city of York, and yet it is no corporation, but being situated nearly in the centre of the West-Riding, the Register-office for deeds, and the House of Correction for that division of the county, are both fixed here. The latter has been rebuilt within these few years, in an airy situation, and on a very good plan. The inhabitants drive a great trade in woollen cloths, of which large quantities are exported, as well as used at home. This thriving condition of the town has given rise to a proverb, *Merry Wakefield*, as well as from its situation in a fertile soil, and cheap country, where is no want of good cheer and merry company.

In the year 1698, the Calder was made navigable hither from Castleforth, and, by act of parliament, 1740, its navigation is continued from thence to Eloud and Hallifax, by which stream, great quantities of coals are carried from hence, as well as Leeds, into the Ouse, and then either go up that river to York, or down to the Humber, supplying abundance of large towns with that commodity, and saving them the duty of four shillings per chaldron, which is paid for the coals of Newcastle.

South, between Wakefield and a village called Sandal, is a small triangular piece of ground, which was fenced off to itself; and, on which, before

fore the late civil war, stood a large stone cross, just upon the spot, where the Duke of York, fighting desperately, and refusing to yield, though surrounded with enemies, was killed. The chapel before mentioned, the remaining monument of this battle, is now used as a warehouse for goods. In this field, where the Duke of York was killed, a gold ring was found, supposed to be his, with this motto round it, *Pour bon amour*, and on the outside, which is very broad, are the effigies of three Saints. This ring is preserved in Mr. Thoresby's museum.

From the bridge is an agreeable view to the south-east, where, by the side of the river, rises a hill covered with wood, at about a mile distance. This joins to an open manor, or common, upon which are several gentlemen's seats, very pleasantly situated. North of Wakefield, is

*Leeds*, an hundred and ninety-seven miles and a quarter from London, situate on the north side of the river Aire, over which it has a magnificent stone bridge to the suburbs, which are very large. Its name is said by some to be derived from the British *Llbwydd*, i. e. a pleasant situation, from the Saxon word *Leod*, i. e. people; therefore it is supposed to have been a populous town even in the time of the Saxons.

This town was incorporated by King Charles I. under a chief alderman, nine burgessees, and twenty assistants; but King Charles II. granted it a corporation by the name of a mayor, twelve aldermen, and twenty four assistants. It has been a town long time famous for the woollen manufacture; yet it had but one church till the reign of King Charles I. when John Harrison, a native of this town, and deputy to its chief alderman, Sir John Saville, observing that it would scarce hold half the inhabitants, built another, in the year 1634, at his own expence, which is called St. John's, and endowed



it with eighty pounds a year, and ten pounds to keep it in repair, to which he added a house for for the minister : he likewise built the alms-houses adjoining, a free-school, a market cross, and the street called New-street, the rents of which he appropriated to pious uses.

Besides this church, there are two others. St. Peter's, which is the parish-church, is built in the form of a cross, with a tower rising from the middle, with eight bells in it. In the cieling is the Ascension of our Saviour, finely painted in fresco, by Parmentier, who voluntarily gave this specimen of his art, in gratitude for the encouragement he had met with here. The third church was built in the present century, it is an elegant structure, with a spire steeple, dedicated to the Holy Trinity.

At the west end of the town formerly stood a castle, wherein King Richard II. was imprisoned before he was carried to Pontefract. And on the site thereof now stands the ancient manor-house, with the park, &c. lately belonging to Mr. Richard Sykes. The two halls are very magnificent, both built about the year 1714, one used for an assembly room, supported by pillars and arches, which form a quadrangle, with an handsome cupola on the top. The other is the Guild or Moat hall, the front of which is likewise built on arches, with rustic coins and tabling. In a niche is a fine statue of Queen Anne.

The arms of the town are adorned with the supporters of Sir John Saville's, who was made the first honorary alderman. These are very suitable, being the two Athenian birds, sacred to that goddess who was deemed the peculiar patroness of spinning and weaving, as well as of arts in general.

On September 10, 1768, the first stone of a general infirmary was laid here, by Edwin Lascelles, Esq. in presence of the recorder, several of the aldermen,

dermen, and others. This charity has met with success from many collections and subscriptions made to it, to support this humane design.

Its cloth market was formerly kept on the bridge, and therefore the refreshment given the clothiers by the inn-keepers, (being a pot of ale, a noggin of pottage, and a trencher of boiled or roast beef, for two pence) called the *Brig-shot*, for a long time, though at present disused.

The increase of the manufactures, and of the trade, soon made the market too great to be confined to the Brigg; so that it was removed to the High-street, beginning from the bridge, and running up north almost to the market-house, where the ordinary market for provisions begins; which also is the greatest of its kind in all the North of England.

By length of time, and the great number of waggons, carts, and other wheel-carriages, almost continually passing on this bridge, it was fallen into decay, and required a speedy repair; and by the narrowness of the road over, occasioned by the buildings, and other encroachments, made or set up at both ends and abutments of the bridge, the way or passage over the same was greatly confined and obstructed, and became not only dangerous to passengers on foot and horseback, but also greatly prejudicial to the trade and commerce of Leeds: to remedy these and other inconveniences, an act passed in the year 1760, for raising money for the finishing and completing the repair of the bridge; and for the purchasing and taking down the houses and buildings which straiten and obstruct the passage to and over it. By means of these alterations, this entrance into the town is now very grand and spacious.

But the Cloth-market held in Cloth-hall at Leeds is chiefly to be admired, as a prodigy of its kind,  
and

and perhaps not to be equalled in the world. The market for serges, at Exeter is indeed a wonderful thing, and the money returned very great; but it is there only once a week, whereas here it is every Tuesday and Saturday.

The clothiers come early in the morning with their cloth; and, as few bring more than one piece, the market-days being so frequent, they go into the inns and public-houses with it, and there set it down.

At about six o'clock in the summer, and about seven in the winter, the clothiers being all come at that time, the market bell, at the old chapel by the bridge, rings; upon which it would surprize a stranger to see in how few minutes, without hurry, noise, or the least disorder, the whole market is filled, all the benches covered with cloth, as close to one another as the pieces can lie longways, each proprietor standing behind his own piece, who form a mercantile regiment, as it were, drawn up in a double line, in as great order as a military one.

As soon as the bell has ceased ringing, the factors and buyers of all sorts enter the hall, and walk up and down between the rows, as their occasions direct. Most of them have papers with patterns sealed on them, in their hands; the colours of which they match, by holding them to the cloths they think they agree to. When they have pitched upon their cloth, they lean over to the clothier, and, by a whisper, in the fewest words imaginable, the price is stated; one asks, the other bids; and they agree or disagree in a moment.

The reason of this prudent silence is owing to the clothers standing so near to one another; for it is not reasonable, that one trader should know another's traffic.

If a merchant has bidden a clothier a price, and he will not take it, he may go after him to his house, and tell him he has considered of it, and is willing to let him have it; but they are not to make any new agreement for it there, so as to remove the market from the street to the merchant's house.

The buyers generally walk up and down twice on each side of the rows, and in little more than an hour all the business is done. In less than half an hour you will perceive the cloth begin to move off, the clothier taking it upon his shoulder to carry it to the merchant's house. At about half an hour after eight the market bell rings again, upon which the buyers immediately disappear, and the cloth which remains unfold is carried back to the inn.

Thus you see ten or twenty thousand pounds worth of cloth, and sometimes much more, bought and sold in little more than an hour, the laws of the market being the most strictly observed that we ever heard of in any market in England.

If it be asked how all these goods at this place, at Wakefield, and at Hallifax, are vended and disposed of? We would observe,

First, that there is an home consumption; to supply which, several considerable traders in Leeds used to go with droves of pack-horses, loaden with those goods to all the fairs and market-towns almost over the whole island, not to sell by retale, but to the shops, by wholesale, giving large credit. It was ordinary for one of these men to carry a thousand pounds worth of cloth with him at a time; and having sold that, to send his horses back for as much more; and this very often in a summer. But of late they only travel for orders, and afterwards send their goods by the common carriers, to the different places intended; for they travel chiefly



chiefly at that season, because of the badness of the roads.

There are others, who have commissions from London to buy, or who give commissions to factors and warehouse-keepers in London, to sell for them, who not only supply all the shop-keepers and wholesale-men in London, but sell also very great quantities to the merchants, as well for exportation to the English colonies in America, which take off great quantities of the coarse goods, especially New England, New York, Virginia, &c. as also to the Russia merchants, who send exceeding great quantities to Peterburgh, Riga, Dantzick, Narva, Sweden, and Pomerania; though of late the manufactures of this kind set up in Prussia, and other northern parts of Germany, interfere a little with them.

The third sorts are such as receive commissions directly from abroad, to buy cloth for the merchants chiefly in Hamburgh, Holland, &c. These are not only many in number, but some of them very considerable in their dealings, and correspond with the farthest provinces in Germany.

The foregoing account of the great mixed cloth-market at Leeds was pretty exact, till a few years ago, when it was entirely removed out of the open street, into a most prodigious extensive building, called The mixed Cloth-hall, erected (1758) by voluntary subscriptions raised entirely amongst the clothiers themselves, without any assistance from the merchants, who rather opposed the removal of the market. This hall consists of a main body, and two wings, enlightened with such a vast number of the largest slated windows that are any where to be seen, that the colours of the cloth are as distinguishable here, as in the open air. Whatever stranger happens to be at Leeds on a Tuesday

or

or Saturday, should not omit the seeing this incomparable market: which is now held at more convenient hours than formerly, viz, at nine o'clock in the summer, and ten in winter. This hall contains no less than five streets, (as they are called) all filled with cloth, to a most prodigious amount.

Another hall is also appropriated for the sale of white cloths, which begins at one o'clock. This, though large, is much inferior to the other.

On account of this trade it was, that the rivers Aire and Calder were made navigable, under the direction of Alderman Pickering, the celebrated author of the Marrow of Mathematics; and performed at the expence of several private merchants, without calling in the assistance of the nobility and gentry. By this means a communication was opened from Leeds and Wakefield to York and Hull; so that all the woollen manufactures exported are carried by water to Hull, and there shipped for Holland, Bremen, Hamburg, and the Baltic.

North-west of, and near Leeds, is *Kirkstall-Abbey*, founded by Henry de Lacy, in the year 1147, in respect to a vow he had made when he was dangerously ill, that if he regained his health he would erect a monastery of the Cistercian order, to the honour of the Blessed Virgin, which he fulfilled, assigning over the town of Bernoldswyk for that purpose.

But the misfortunes and troubles the monks met with from straggling parties from the armies, and their fruits and grain being repeatedly destroyed, by great rains and the badness of the soil, obliged the abbot to think of removing the seat of his monastery. Accordingly, when he was travelling on some business of his house, he passed through a shady valley, called Aire-dale, from the river  
Aire

Aire, by which it was watered. Here he met certain brothers who led an eremitical life. Delighted with the pleasantness of the place, he enquired of them their manner of living, and from whence they came; to which one Seleth, who acted as a superior over them, answered, that he came from the south, having been commanded to leave his home in a dream; wherein he thought he heard a voice thrice utter these words, "Rise Seleth, and go into the province of York, and seek diligently in the vale of Air-dale, for a place called Kirkstall; for there you shall prepare a future habitation for brethren serving my son." Whereupon questioning, "But who is your son whom we are to serve?" The voice answered, "I am Mary; my son is called Jesus of Nazareth, the Saviour of the world." That after awaking, after maturely considering his dream, he set out in search of that place, when being conducted, guarded by the Virgin, after many dangers and difficulties, by the information of some herdsmen, he found out the place directed, where he long dwelt alone, subsisting on roots, herbs, and such charity as was administered: that afterwards he was joined by the brethren then present, by whom he was elected their superior.

The abbot hearing this, and reflecting on the situation and circumstances; the beauty of the vale, &c. persuaded several of them to become monks in his convent. When he returned, he repaired to Henry de Lacy, his patron, and acquainted him with the desirable spot he had found at Kirkstall, and the benefit that would accrue from their removal thither. The abbot met with the success he desired, and built a church on the spot, in honour of the Blessed Virgin, with some humble offices, according to the custom of the order, and called the monastery

monastery Kirkstall, on the 14th of June or 19th of May, 1152, in the reign of King Stephen. This place, though pleasant, abounded only in wood, water and stone; but the soil was barren, rude and uncultivated.

The following account of this monastery is given by *Thomas Gent*, in his *History of Rippon*:

“ Before I proceed to the monument of St. John’s, I shall refresh myself and the reader with a little observation of Kirkstall-abbey, near Leeds. The stately gate, north-west of the abbey, (now converted into a farm-house, as may appear by the magnificent arches on each side, but walled up) through which they were once used to pass into a spacious plain at the west end of the church; and so through another gate, to the area facing the Lord Abbot’s palace, on the south side of it: the chrystal river Aire incessantly running by, with a murmuring pleasant noise, while the winged choristers of the air add their melodious notes to make the harmony the greater. The walls of the edifice, built after the manner of a crucifix, having nine pillars on each side from east to west, besides those at each end, if they may be called so: the stately reverential aisles in the whole church; the places for six altars, on each side the high altar, as appears by the stone pots for holy water. The burial place for the monks on the south side, (near the palace) now made an orchard, having trees in it much of the same height of the lofty walls, casting an awful gloomy shade: the arched chamber leading to this cemetery, next the church, in the walls of which are yet to be perceived several large stone coffins: the dormitory yet more south-east, with other cells and offices. All these are enough to furnish the contemplative soul, with the most serious meditations. And what is yet to be observed, that this stately building having been the last in



this county that arrived to its full perfection and beauty, was the soonest visited and destroyed. Now only is it a mere shell, with roofless walls, having yet a well built, but uncovered, steeple; the eastern parts embraced by its beloved ivy; and all about the whole pile, desolate, solitary, and forlorn.

"The great window of the high altar is not only a wide space, but the very wall underneath, that once supported its comely stanchells, unquestionably adorned with curious painted glass, is now entirely taken away. This makes it a great, but solitary passage, through the whole body of the abbey, and so through the west door of the church, an easier way to some of the neighbouring villages. The altar stone now lies broken at the east end."

*Harwood*, to the north of Leeds, is a pretty little town, with a stone bridge over the river Wharfe, which runs in a bed of stone, and looks as clear as rock-water. The ruins of a strong castle are still to be seen here. In the church was interred the famous Sir William Gascoigne, who had the courage to commit Prince Henry, afterwards King Henry V. to the King's Bench, for an affront he put upon him, while he was on the seat of justice, letting him know, that though he was the King's son, he was not exempted from the power of the magistrate, if he acted wrong and in contempt of him. The Prince, when he came to the throne, shewed a true greatness of soul, for he not only forgave, but applauded the Knight for his conduct.

Near Harwood church is

*Gawthorpe-hall*, a most sumptuous and elegant structure, belonging to Edwin Lascelles, Esq. It was built in 1768, of fine hewn stone; the two fronts are grand, and very large. The south front is ornamented with a noble portico and pediment, supported by pillars. A fine view of this house is seen from a hill upon the road, a little beyond the  
sixth

sixth mile-stone from Leeds ; but it does not enjoy an extensive prospect itself, it being situate on the side of an eminence, the only material objection to its situation ; but to remedy this defect, Mr. Lascelles has erected several neat farm houses, in the ground near his seat, which have a very agreeable effect to the eye.

There is an exceeding beautiful view of the river Wherfe, a little to the north of Harwood, just before you come to the bridge, above which are large remains of the ancient castle before spoken of, which is a great addition to the beauty of the prospect.

On the east of Harwood is

*Osby*, situate on the south side of the river Wherfe, it is a market town of little or no note, except from its situation, which is under a large craggy cliff. The country hereabouts is greatly admired, especially on the banks of the Wherfe, near York, which is greatly enlivened by the number of gentlemens seats, adjoining to each other. Some travellers have compared this part of the county with the plain of Palermo. Bishop Tonsall, in his journey to York, with King Henry VIII. in the year 1548, declared, that the country north of Doncaster, and south of Haslewood, was the richest he had found in his travels through Europe.

Mr. Ibbetson's seat at *Denton*, deserves particular mention, as the motto on the house will naturally engage the attention of the traveller :

Quod nec Jovis Ira, nec Ignis, nec Poterit Ferrum.

Which nor the force of lightning can annoy,  
Nor fire, nor desolating sword, destroy.

This house formerly belonged to Lord Fairfax, general of the parliament forces, and was about to  
be

be demolished by Prince Rupert; but was happily saved by the sight of a picture of one of the general's ancestors. It was afterwards burnt down by accident, and rebuilt by the present possessor; and now, after the rage of war, and devastation of fire, in a poetic rant defies them both.

*Wetherby*, an hundred and ninety-one miles from London, is a well built town, agreeably situated on the river Wharfe, over which it has a noble bridge; above which the river forms a beautiful cascade, by falling in a grand sheet of water over a dam, raised for the conveniency of the mills, where they not only grind corn, but press great quantities of oil from rape seed, and rasp log-wood for the use of the clothiers and dyers in the manufacturing part of the county. This town, lying in the great Northern road, is full of good inns, for the accommodation of travellers; and it has an exceeding good corn-market.

South of *Wetherby* is a beautiful seat belonging to George Fox Lane, Esq. called *Bramham-park*. The house was built by the late Lord Bingley, and came to the present possessor by marriage, with his daughter and heiress, who has since obtained that title. This seat is most advantageously situated in a fine country; it commands a most extensive prospect, embellished with a distinct view of the magnificent cathedral at York, from the hall door. The gardens are laid out in a judicious and beautiful manner, the vista's cut through the adjacent woods are delightful, and the water-works, statues, and temples, exceedingly well disposed; so that it may with justice be said, that art and nature vie with each other for the preference.

From *Wetherby*, a road branches off to

*Knareborough*, an hundred and ninety-nine miles from London. It is an ancient market town, situated upon the river Nid. It was formerly called *Gnareborough*,

*Knaresborough*, and by foreigners, the *Yorkshire Spaw*. As there are no less than four different waters in and about this town, and at *Harrogate*, a little village about two miles distant.

The first, called the *Sweet-spaw*, or *Vitrioline-well*, is acknowledged by the faculty to be a very sovereign remedy in many distempers. It was discovered by Mr. Slingsby in the year 1630, and Dr. *Leigh* speaks greatly of it in his *Natural History of Lancashire*. It is situated a small distance from the town, in a part called *Knaresborough-forest*.

The second is the *Stinking-spaw*, or *Sulphur-well*. It has its name from its foetid smell, so exceedingly disagreeable, that those who drink of it, are obliged to hold their noses the while; but the water is as clear as chrystal. This is a very powerful medicine in scorbutic, hypochondriac, and in chronical disorders: but it is now chiefly used for bathing.

*Harrogate*, is greatly resorted to by numbers of genteel people, during the summer season, but not so much as to vie with *Scarborough*.

The *Dropping-well*, the most famous of all the petrifying wells in England. It is situated on the opposite side of the river, over which you cross by handsome stone arches. Near one end of the bridge is a cell dug out of the common rock, and called *St. Robert's chapel*. The river is shallow, but the stream is rapid, which being interrupted in its course by several large stones, occasions a very agreeable murmuring. The spring that supplies the dropping-well rises about two miles distance, and runs most part of the way under ground to this place. The water falls from a rock, which is about sixteen or seventeen feet high; and as it bends in a circular projection from the bottom to the top, in such a manner, as that its brow hangs over about four or five feet, the water does not  
run



run down the side, but drops very fast from thirty or forty places, at the top, into a basin, which it has hollowed in the ground; and every drop creates a musical kind of tinkling; which is probably in a great degree owing to the concavity of the rock. Tradition informs us, that the famous Mother Shipton was born near this rock. Here are several pieces of moss, &c. petrified. This spot is truly romantic and agreeable. Walking under the agreeable shade of spreading trees, whose wide friendly arms shelter you from the weather; the ear is amazingly entertained with the dribbling of the water from the rock, and the rippling of the river; while on the other side, the venerable ruins of a large castle, and a charming intermixture of rocks and trees on the opposite hill, above which, part of the tower of Knaresborough church, and several broken views of the town, caught through the trees, have a fine effect on the eye. Besides this, there are several other agreeable walks from the dropping well along the river side, which afford surprizing and finely varied scenes.

*Ripley*, four miles and an half from Knaresborough, is likewise situate upon the river Nid, over which it has a stone bridge. It is a small market town, consisting of one street, about three furlongs in length. It is chiefly remarkable for a neat church and clean church-yard; towards the west end thereof is an uncommon kind of pediment of an ancient cross; not equal, as usual, but round, with eight niches, intended probably for meeting in. It is also noted for being the birth-place of Sir George Ripley, the famous Chemist and Canon of Bridlington, who after travelling to Italy, and twenty years study to find out the philosopher's stone, is said to have discovered it in the year 1470, and to have given the Knights of Rhodes an hundred thousand pounds a year to support the wars against

against the Turks. It is also pretended, there is a record of this in the island of Malta: but the belief of part of this we must leave to the discretion of the reader. Here is an old seat of Sir John Brightly, Bart.

Falling into the great northern road again, which we left at Wetherby, we come to

*Boroughbridge*, or *Burrowbrigg*, two hundred and three miles from London. It takes its name from its stately stone bridge over the river Ure, which comes to it from Rippon, and being joined a little below it by the river Swale, is then called the Ouse. This bridge, as observed by *Camden*, must undoubtedly have been formerly built of timber, because we read, that in a battle fought here, between King Edward II. and his Barons, as Humphry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, was passing over this bridge, a soldier, who lay concealed under it, thrust a spear or pike through a chink of it, into his body, of which wound he died.

This is said to be a very ancient borough, and Roman colony, called *Isurium Brigantium*. And though there are no traces to be seen above ground to confirm this opinion, yet the many coins, urns, vaults, pavements, and other Roman antiquities, give sufficient evidence to prove it. For a particular account of which, we refer our readers to Mr. *Camden*, and his learned continuator, only observing, that a very curious mosaic pavement, of a different form and beauty, was discovered a few years ago in digging the foundation of a house, and which is now about two feet from the level of the street.

At the door of the college is another tessellated pavement of a different form from the other; and though not above three yards from it, is a foot nearer the surface of the street. The former is composed

posed of white and black squares, with a border of red; but the stones of this, which are lesser squares, are white, yellow, red and blue.

This town is governed by a bailiff, and first sent members to parliament, 1. Queen Mary I. The chief manufacture carried on here is in hardware, and it is supposed that seven or eight thousand pounds are laid out yearly here in that article, reckoned the chief support of the town.

Near Boroughbridge are three huge stones, called the *Devil's Bolts*, or *Arrows*, by the vulgar. They are set an end in form of pyramids, and are four square, but not sharp at the top. They stand nearly in a line from north to south. The south and middle stone, appears to be about eight yards high above the ground; fluted towards the top, but not regularly, said to be owing to the rain trickling down, and in time forming those channels. The sides of these two are each about a yard and a quarter broad, near the ground, but diminish upwards. The northernmost stone is broader and shorter than either of the others; being full two yards broad on two sides, but not above six yards high. These pillars are of a gritty nature, and have the appearance of real, but are generally supposed to be factitious stones, as this part of the country affords none of the kind, and they seem to be too large to be brought from a distance, being many tons apiece. How deep they go into the ground is uncertain, but the people say that the part within the ground is equal to that above it, and they have a legend here, that these stones were pitched here by the devil, but are by the learned looked upon to be either monuments of some victory, or British deities. About two miles from this town, is

*Aldborough*, formerly a good Roman town, but now only a small village; though it is yet a borough

rough, and sends two members to parliament; great numbers of Roman coins and other antiquities are dug up here.

At about six miles distant from Boroughbridge, in the road to Kendal, in Westmoreland, is

*Rippon*, two hundred and nine miles from London. It is a large, pleasant and well built town, situate between the rivers Ure, and the little river Skell, over the former of which it has two good stone bridges, one of which has at least thirteen arches. This town is the *Isurium* of the Romans; it is an ancient corporation, and sends two members to parliament. Mr. *Camden* says this town owes its greatness to religion, especially a monastery built by Wilfrid, Archbishop of York, in the infancy of the English church; and is wonderful, says *Malsbury*, for its arched vaults, fine pavements, and winding entries; but *Bede* says, the Scots had a monastery here before Wilfrid came.

This pompous monastery, together with the whole town, was entirely demolished, according to *Camden*, by the Danes, two hundred and eighty years after it was founded, in the year 940. Odo, Archbishop of York rebuilt it, but it was never so considerable, till after the Norman Conquest, when it increased and flourished; many of the Archbishops of York having resided here. King Athelstan granted the privilege of sanctuary to it, which he extended a mile around the church, and he that infringed it, was to forfeit life and estate.

Annexed to this monastery, was an hospital dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, the purposes of which are very remarkable. A proper salary was allowed for the maintenance of two chaplains, to perform divine service; and if any begging clergyman, or other needy person, should happen to travel, or stray out of their way, and call at the said hospital, he should be relieved there for one night only, and



so begone in the morning, and every poor person that came craving alms on St. Mary Magdalen's-day, yearly, should have one loaf, value an halfpenny, (when corn was at the price of five shillings per quarter) and one herring.

It is also recorded, that one branch of this hospital was given to a society of religious sisters, to maintain a chaplain to perform divine service, and to keep all the lepers born and bred in Hipschire, but the sisters being in time removed, a brotherhood was established in their stead, which continued for a while, and after that a mastership. Till at length all was removed, being given up in reign of Henry VIII. and only the church preserved.

The church is a large, ancient and venerable pile, firm, strong and plain, without any images or statues, and shews itself a great way in the country; there are three towers, on which were formerly three spires.

King Henry VIII. having seized its whole revenues, little or nothing remained for an officiating clergyman, till King James I. having the case represented to him by his queen, founded and endowed in this church, one dean, and seven prebendaries, (one of whom is stiled sub-dean) besides petit canons, singing men, and choristers, who are all under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of York.

The market place here is reckoned one of the finest and most beautiful squares of its kind in England; in the middle of it stands a curious obelisk, erected by the late Mr. Aislabric, whose seat is about a mile distant.

In the last age but one, the canons here got considerable sums of money, by a place called Wini-fred's Needle; being a narrow hole in a close vaulted

vaulted room under ground, in which womens chastity was tried; which was so contrived, that none could pass through but whom they pleased. Those women that could thread it, by paying the priest in money, or an equivalent, were reckoned chaste, but those that stuck in the passage otherwise.

In the church-yard of the minster lies a plain monument, or grave-stone, of a late generous benefactor to the town, who gave two thousand pounds to pious uses. On the stone is the following short and pithy epitaph:

Hic jacet *Zacharias Jephson*, cujus *Ætas* fuit 49.  
Per pavidos Annos tantum Vixit.

Here lies *Zacharias Jephson*, whole age was 49 years,  
A very short period for so worthy a person.

The park and gardens belonging to Mr. Aislabic, before mentioned, are visited by all the curious, and looked upon as a wonder, for here art seems to vie with nature, and both join to form the scene complete. The buildings are admired by judges of architecture, and the gardens allowed to be laid out in fine taste: the temples and loggior are judiciously disposed, and the prospects sufficiently varied. In one part the hills gradually ascend, with tufts of shade interspersed over the verdure; in another they precipitately rise with rocks projecting from their rough sides, and tall woods covering their brows. Above these a beautiful Gothic (but unconsecrated) tower lifts its head; and below, the skirts of the cliffs are watered by a river, which wanders in one place in a silent current, and in another falls down in cascades. An easy eminence commands a prospect of the town and and minster of Rippon, with a large extent of country beyond; and the stately ruins of Fountain's-  
abbey

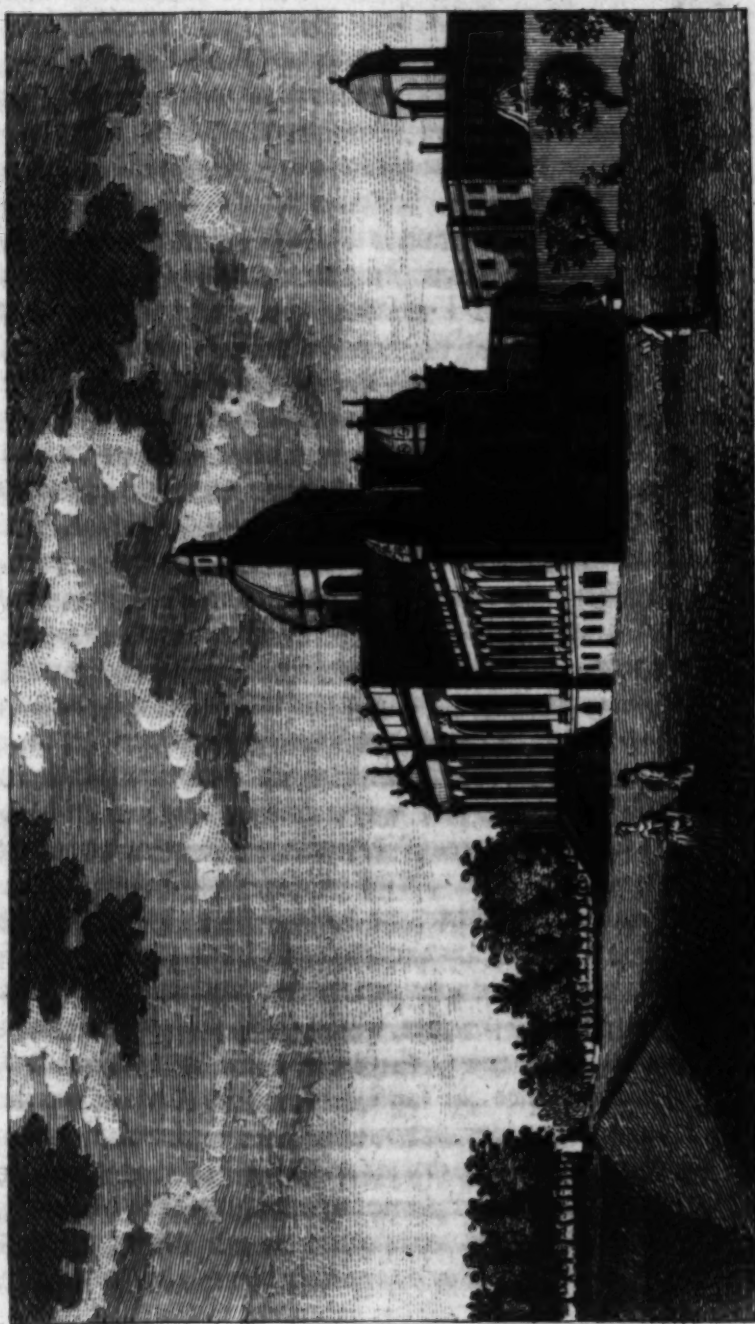
abbey are seen from another, besides gentlemen's seats in the centre of many views. The fine turf of the park is constantly cleared of weeds, and equal care is taken to preserve the best trees from decay. In short, the variety of beauties in this charming spot, exceeds the description of the pen; and requires sight alone to form a proper conception of them.

And indeed so greatly admired are these gardens, that the late Bishop of Namur, (Abbot Strickland) when he resided in England, in the year 1734, took a journey to Studley, with intention to transplant some of the beauties of this place, as near as might be, in the disposition of his plantations, adjoining to a magnificent palace he was then about to build at his episcopal residence.

Besides this delightful seat of Mr. Aislaby, is another about a mile from Rippon, built some years ago by Sir Edward Blacket, afterwards the property of William Weddel, Esq. The building was designed by Sir Christopher Wren; it is of brick, with fine avenues leading up to it. The gardens are well laid out, and the house commands a fine prospect for many miles round, with the river in view most part of the way. It has also a noble appearance of the great Northern road, which we left at Boroughbridge, about two miles from it.

The park is noble, and extends to the bank of the river Eure; by the overflowing of which it is sometimes laid under water, which is a great advantage to it, for that water coming down from the western mountains, through a marly, loamy soil, greatly enriches the land, and makes it more fertile.

*Fountains-abbey*, about three miles from Rippon, was erected about 1143, and owes its foundation to the withdrawing of some of the monks from St. Mary's, who had preferred a complaint to the Archbishop of York against their brethren; the  
Archbishop



*Castle Howard Yorkshire.*





Archbishop paid a visit to the monastery, but the abbot and monks having shut the door against him, he interdicted both the church and the monks.

At Christmas, the Archbishop being at Rippon, assigned to these monks certain lands, about three miles west of that place, in the patrimony of St. Peter, for erecting a monastery. This spot, which was fitter for the retreat of wild beasts than the habitation of men, was called Skell-dale, on account of a river running through it, from west to east. It lay between two steep hills, surrounded on all sides with rocks, wood and brambles, and had never been either cultivated or inhabited; he also gave to them the neighbouring village, called Sutton. Having elected for their abbot, Richard the Prior of St. Mary's, they retired to the desert in the depth of winter, without any house to cover them, or provisions to subsist on; entirely relying on the Divine Providence, and the assistance of pious persons. In the midst of the vale there stood a large elm, on which they put some thatch, or straw; under this they slept, eat, and prayed; the archbishop supplying them some time with bread, and the rivulet with drink; during part of the day some laboured to clear a small spot for a garden, whilst others made wattles, in order to erect an oratory, or chapel. From the following circumstance mentioned by Dr. Brown, it seems as if they afterwards changed their elm for the shelter of some yew trees. "On the south side of the house (says that author) where the abbey stood, about the midway, in ascending the hill are five or six yew trees, all yet (1757) growing, except the largest, which was blown down a few years ago; they are of an almost incredible size; the circumference of the trunk of one of them was at least fourteen feet, about a yard from the ground; and are so nigh each other, as to form an excellent cover,

cover, almost equal to that of a thatched roof. Under these trees, we are told by tradition, the monks resided till they built the monastery; which seems to me to be very probable, if we consider how little a yew tree increases every year, and to what a bulk these are grown; and as the hill side was almost covered with wood, which is now almost cut down, except these trees, it seems as if they were left standing to perpetuate the memory of the monks habitation there, during the first winter of their residence."

Thus they laboured for two years under the greatest hardships, but afterwards greatly increased by the donations of Hugh Dean of York, and other persons; so that at the dissolution, the revenues, according to *Burton*, amounted to eleven hundred and twenty-five pounds, eighteen shillings and one penny three farthings, and the offer the monks made to King Henry VIII. was five hundred marks, which also shews the great wealth of the foundation; for according to the least valuation, this sum was at that time more than equivalent to two thousand pounds of our present money. The abbey is now in the possession of — Aislatic, Esq. who purchased it, and makes a termination for one of the stations in this garden, as before taken notice of.

Returning again to the south part of the county, we join the great Northern road at Wentbridge, where a branch of it parts off to

*Pontefract*, or *Pomfret*, an hundred and seventy-five miles from London, is a large and well built town, but much smaller than it has been. The castle is so demolished, to the very foundation, though built on a firm rock, that there is little or nothing of the walls remaining. Pontefract is a corporation by prescription, and the mayor and twelve aldermen are always justices of the peace, and

and it sends two members to parliament. It is said, that anciently none could be arrested at the market cross, called Oswald's-cross; and a free way leading to the cross, with about two yards around it, was kept long unpaved in memory of that privilege; but in the year 1735, the old cross was pulled down, and an handsome dome, supported by a colonade of Doric pillars (the charge whereof was defrayed by a legacy left by one Dupere an inhabitant of the town) was erected for that purpose.

The castle must have been a noble pile. A round tower yet standing, is entire, in or near which, the tradition is, King Richard II. was murdered. Adjoining to this tower are winding stairs, which descend into several vaults and subterraneous passages.

The parish church, which stands near the castle, and was prodigiously large, received so much damage in the civil wars, that no more than the shell is now left standing. It has an handsome Gothic building, in the form of a cross, with a tower in the middle, which is in good proportion, and was formerly crowned with a magnificent lantern, enriched with carved work; but it received such damage from a cannon shot, during the siege of the castle, that it was soon after blown down; and, upon the surrender of the castle, the parliament (by resolution of the house of the 27th of March, 1749) granted a thousand pounds to be raised by sale of the materials of the said castle, to the town of Pontefract, towards the repairing of their place of public worship, and re-edifying an habitation for a minister. Part of this grant might be applied in erecting a plain octagon building upon the tower, which finishes the whole, in a manner not disagreeable, though far inferior to the former. In the north-west corner of this tower are two circular flights



flights of stairs, winding above the same centre, with separate entrances below, and distinct landings above. The inhabitants of the town still continue to bury in this church-yard; but divine service is performed in a chapel adjoining to the market-place, which is very spacious.

At the bottom of the market-place stands the town-hall. This town produces liquorice in large quantities.

In Pontefract and the castle much blood has been spilt in former ages. Here Henry, the great Earl of Lancaster, who was lord of the castle, and whose ancestors had beautified, enlarged, and fortified it, was beheaded by his nephew, King Edward II. with three or four more of the English Barons. Here Richard II. was murdered, and, if history may be credited, in a most cruel manner: and here Anthony Earl Rivers, and Sir Richard Gray, the former uncle, and the other brother-in-law to King Edward V. were beheaded by King Richard III. In the civil wars, a small party of brave fellows took this castle by surprize for the King, and desperately defended it to the last extremity; but being at length obliged to yield, five of them attempted to break through the besiegers camp, three of whom perished in the attempt.

*Mettley*, the seat of Lord Mexborough, about six miles from this town, is fitted up and furnished in so rich a manner, as to attract the attention of all travellers. The ground floor consists of a vestibule, a dining-room, and a drawing-room; the first thirty-seven by twenty-seven, and a large bow-window; the second thirty-seven by twenty-five, hung with crimson damask, the ornaments carved and gilt: the cieling in compartments, ornamented, in green and gold, and white: the chimney-piece very handsome, the cornice, &c. of white marble,

the

the frieze of Siena, with white scrolls on it, and supported by Ionic pillars of Siena: the door and window cases of white and gold; the cornice of the same, and the frieze green and gold, very elegant. The frames of the light glasses, settees, chairs, &c. carved and richly gilt.

Upon the first floor are three apartments: The green velvet bed-chamber, nineteen by eighteen. The chimney-piece, Corinthian pillars of Siena marble, with gilt capitals. The crimson damask room, twenty-three by eighteen; the cieling white and gold in compartment, with festoons of gilding in them of a light and elegant taste; the chimney-piece white and Siena marble; in the centre, doves in bas relief, very fine. The ornaments of the bed, gilt carving; and the window curtains covered with scrolls of the same. Adjoining, a small dressing-room; the cieling, gilt scrolls on a lead white, light and pleasing. The chintz room, twenty-five by eighteen, the cieling in compartments of slight scrolls of gilding. Here are two large and very fine India figures, above a yard high, in glass cases. A dressing-room, eighteen by twelve, nearly as well as richly fitted up. I should remark in general that the articles of carving and gilding are done throughout the house with much elegance; the doors, door-cases, window-frames, pannels, &c. are ornamented in this manner, the cielings are in general well executed, the scrolls of gilding not crowded, but light and neat as well as rich, and the furniture equally well chosen. The house is not a large one, but it is, upon the whole, much better finished than most of its size in the kingdom; than many more capital ones. One remark, however, we should add, which is, that those who go to Methley by Pontefract, must be extremely fond of seeing houses, or they will not recompense the fatigue of passing such detestable roads. They

Y y

are

are full of ruts, whose gaping jaws threaten to swallow up any carriage less than a waggon. It would be no bad precaution to yoke half a score of oxen to your coach, to be ready to encounter with such quagmires as you will here meet with.

We shall now proceed to the description of the

### E A S T R I D I N G.

THIS second division is the smallest of the three; it is bounded on the north and west by the Derwent and the Ouse, on the south by the Humber, and on the east by the German ocean. The south-east part of it towards the Humber and the ocean, which is called the Wapentake of Holderness, and gives title of Earl to the family of Darey, is very fruitful. The east and west parts, the one on the sea coast, the other on the Derwent, are rich and full of towns; but the middle of this division is overspread with barren, sandy, dry, uninhabited *Woulds*, which are called York's Would, being great downs and hills, that produce some corn, and feed great numbers of black cattle, horses and sheep, whose fleeces may compare with those of Colewold; but they are generally sent to the marshes to be fattened. The soil about these *Woulds* abounds with chalk, flints, fire-stone, &c. and in divers parts of it there are mines of coal and free-stone. The *Would* extends a great way into the Wapentakes of Baintow, Buck-cross and Dickerings; and at the foot of them, near Bigthorp, and the *Woulds*, though many of them are washed by the rains into the brook. The air cannot be supposed to be the purest every where in this Riding, considering how great a part of it is encompassed by the sea and the Humber.

Its

Its rivers are, the Ouse, Derwent, Fowlwy or Fowlness, Shelfleet and Hull. The Trent runs into the Humber, over against the Fowlwy, where it meets with the Ouse. Of this Humber, which may more properly be called an *Æstuary Frith*, or arm of the sea, *Drayton* says,

“That full an hundred floods his wat’ry court maintain.”

And of its Hygre, or the roar of its waters at the coming in of the tide;

“For when my Hygre comes, I make my either shore

“Even tremble with the found.”

It is observed farther, that the Humber at every tide flows as the sea does, and at the ebb its own waters go with much rapidity into the sea, along with that it borrowed from thence, that the noise is not only frightful, but dangerous to sailors that are not acquainted with it. This is the largest siltuary, and the best stored with fish of any in these parts.

The Derwent rises in the north part of this Riding at *Liberston* not far from the sea-side, and passes all along the west part of it, till it falls into the Ouse at *Barmby*, and it is carried into the Humber. It receives many smaller brooks in its passage, and brings plenty of fish to the very doors of the inhabitants of many of the villages.

The Hull rises in the *Wold*, passes into the Humber, abounds also with fish, and being navigable from the Humber to *Beverley*, is of great use to the inland parts of this Riding.

The Fowlness is nothing more than a good large brook, which rising at *Godminthan* a little distance in the country, and dividing its stream a little above *Sandholm*,



Sandholm, falls with a double mouth into the Humber, just at its conjunction with the Ouse.

There are other waters here which deserve particular mention.

1. The *Vipseis*, which are in the woulds called *Gipseys*, William Newburginsis, who was born at Hornsey in Holderness, says they break out of the earth at several sources every other year, and run through the lower grounds with a strong current into the sea; Mr. Ray says they break out in these downs, and spout up water to a very great height, but are never seen but after great gluts of rain and lasting wet weather. And if it be enquired how this can be the effect of a great glut of rain, the answer is, that in these woulds, and in like places, where such jits, or water shoots happen, there are great subterraneous basons to receive it, which have near them some narrow small veins, reaching to the surface of the ground, and the water in these basons being much higher than the places of eruption, forces that in the veins upwards by its weight, and makes it spout up to such a height. The country people here have a notion, that whenever these eruptions happen, which they have for many years past, they usually portend a famine: And thus much must be owned, that very wet springs and summers are generally the forerunners of a dearth of corn and other provisions. There are sudden and intermittant eruptions of the like kind in Kent, where they are called *Nailbourns*.

2. The *Merry water*, which in the way from Bridlington to Hornsey, is pretty deep and always fresh. It is about one mile and half long, and half a mile broad, and abounds with the best pikes, perch, and eels. Whether it was occasioned at first by some earthquake, with a flux of water following it, or otherwise, is not certain; but the people say that old trees have been found floating upon it, and decayed nuts upon the shore.

3. In

3. In a pasture called *Swinemore*, one mile to the east of Beverley, there is a kind of spaw, which the people say cannot be judged by the taste to proceed from any mineral, yet being taken inwardly, it is a great dryer, and being washed with outwardly, it kills all scorbutic scurff, with all sorts of scabs, and is very good against the King's evil.

As for the fuel in this Riding it is chiefly pit-coal, and is very cheap, and it does not want for wood and turf.

Entering the East Riding by the Scarborough road, which we left at Lincoln, we cross the Humber and come to Hull (commonly called *Kingston upon Hull*) an hundred and seventy three miles from London. It is justly compared to *Hamburgh*, *Dantzick*, *Rotterdam*, or any of the second cities abroad for commerce: Indeed it is not so large as those cities, but in proportion to its dimensions more business is done in Hull than in any town in Europe.

In the war, ended by the peace of *Utrecht*, the fleets from Hull to London, were frequently an hundred sail; sometimes, (including the other creeks in the Humber) an hundred and fifty sail at a time, and their trade was so considerable to Holland, that the Dutch always employed two men of war, to convoy the merchantmen to and from Hull, and those were as many as they sent to London.

Great part of the trade of *Leeds*, *Wakefield*, and *Hallifax*, of which we have before spoken of, is negociated here. All the lead trade of *Derbyshire*, and *Nottinghamshire* from *Bautry wharf*; the butter of the East and North Ridings brought down the Ouse from *York*; the cheese down the *Trent* from *Stafford*, *Warwick*, and *Cheshire*; and the corn from all the counties adjacent, are shipp'd off here.

So again, they supply all these counties with foreign goods, for which they trade to all parts of the known

known world ; nor have the merchants of any port in Britain greater credit, or a fairer character, than the merchants of Hull, as well for the justice of their dealings, as the greatness of their substance. From Norway, and the Baltick, Dantzick, Riga, Narva, and Petersburgh, they make large returns in iron, copper, hemp, flax, canvass, Muscovy linen and yarn, and other things ; for all which they get vent in the country in prodigious quantities. They have also a great importation of wine, linen, oil, fruit, &c. from Holland, France, and Spain. The trade of tobacco and sugars from the West-Indies they chiefly manage by the way of London. But, besides all this, their export of corn to Holland, France, Spain, Hamburgh, Petersburgh, Sweden, &c. exceeds all of the kind that is or can be at any port in England, London excepted.

Their shipping is a great article, in which they exceed all the towns and ports on that coast, except Yarmouth, saving that their shipping consists chiefly in smaller vessels than the coal-trade is supplied with, though they have a great many large vessels too, which are employed in their foreign trade.

The town is situated at the mouth of the river Hull, where it falls into the Humber, and where the Humber opens into the German ocean ; so that one side of the town lies upon the sea, the other upon the land. This makes the situation naturally very strong, and, were there occasion, it is capable of being made impregnable, by reason of the low grounds round it.

The advantages of this situation struck King Edward I. as he was riding a hunting, after his return from the defeat of the Scots in the year 1296. Upon which he immediately granted several privileges and immunities to those who would build and settle here, erected a manor-hall himself, and fitted up an harbour, from whence it received the name of Kingstown.

town. It held out against King Charles I. who went in person to demand it, when Sir John Hotham told his Majesty, "He kept it for the parliament against him." Yet both the Hothams, viz. father and son, lost their heads by that very parliament.

King Charles II. on occasion of the frequent Dutch wars in his reign, had once resolved to appoint a station for a squadron of men of war here, with a yard and dock for building ships; and, on this occasion, resolved to make the place strong in proportion to what those affairs required: Upon which a large citadel was marked out on the other side of the river; but it was not proceeded with.

The town is exceeding close built, and populous, even to an inconvenience, having really no room to extend itself by buildings. There are but two churches, Trinity, and St. Mary's; the former is very large, (but the pillars remarkably small) in which is a fine altar-piece by Parmentier; the latter is thought to have been once larger than it is. King Henry VIII. used it as his chapel royal, and with the same freedom; for this defender of the faith, and protector of the church, pulled down the steeple, because it stood opposite to the palace where he resided. The inhabitants afterwards built it up again at their own expence.

They shew us, in their town-hall, the figure of a northern fisherman, supposed to be of Greenland. He was taken up at sea in a leathern boat, which he sat in; and was covered with skins, which he drew together about his waist, so that the boat could not take in water, and therefore could not sink. The creature would neither feed nor speak; and died of hunger and sulkiness in three days.

They have a very handsome exchange here, where the merchants from foreign countries, and others from different parts of the kingdom, meet, as at London. The business arising from the navigation



tion of all the great rivers that fall into the Humber is transacted here. There is also a fine free-school, founded by John Alcock, Bishop of Worcester, afterwards of Ely, who was born at Beverly, but chose to extend his liberalities to this place, over the school in the merchants hall.

But the Trinity-house here is the glory of the town. It is a corporation of itself, composed of a society of merchants. It was begun by voluntary contribution for relief of distressed and aged seamen, and their wives and widows; but was afterwards improved by the government, and incorporated. They have a good revenue, which increases every day by charities.

They maintain thirty sisters now actually in the house, widows of seamen. They have a government by twelve elder brethren, and six assistants. Out of the twelve they choose annually two wardens (but the whole eighteen vote in electing them) and two stewards. These have a power to decide disputes between masters of ships and their crews, in matters relating to sea affairs; with this limitation, that their judgment be not contrary to the laws of the land; but so great difference is paid to it, that in trials at law in such affairs, they are often called to give their opinions.

A Greenland fishery, set up in this town, went on with success for a while, but decayed in the time of the Dutch wars; and the house built by the Greenland merchants is now turned into granaries for corn, and warehouses for other goods.

The old hospital, called God's-house, stands near it, with a chapel; both which were pulled down in the civil wars 1643, but were rebuilt in 1673, and the arms of the De la Poles, being found among the ruins, were placed over the door of the hospital, with this inscription:

DEO ET PAUPERIBVS POSVIT

MICHAEL DE LA POLE, 1384.

Michael de la Pole dedicated this to God, and  
to the Poor, in the year 1384.

This Michael was the son of William de la Pole, some time a merchant at Ravenspurn, formerly a flourishing town of trade at the mouth of the Humber; but being removed to this new town of Kingston, in the time of Edward III. gave that King a magnificent entertainment, when, in the sixth year of his reign, he came to take a view of the place; upon which our merchant was knighted. The King afterwards going into Flanders against the French, met Sir William at Antwerp, where he supplied him with several thousands of pounds, and even mortgaged his estate for his Royal master's use. Such services could not go unrewarded from so generous and successful a Prince. He made him Knight Banneret in the Field, settled on him and his heirs lands at Kingston to the value of five hundred marks a year, and upon his return into England, increased them to a thousand, and advanced him in time to be Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

Sir William died about 1356, after he had begun a monastery here for the Carthusians. His son, Sir Michael, who, 6. Richard II. was made Lord Chancellor, not only finished it, but founded likewise the hospital called God's-house, before-mentioned. He built moreover a stately palace, called the Duke of Suffolk's, which honour he obtained in right of his wife Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Sir John Wingfield, who married the heiress of Gilbert Glanville, Earl of Suffolk. But the happiness of him and his family, being now arrived to the height, set in misfortunes; for in the year 1388, he was impeached of high treason, and

fled for his life into France, where he died. William de la Pole was Prime Minister to King Henry VI. and suspected to be too familiar with his heroic Queen. He was impeached by the Commons in the year 1450, and banished; but his head was struck off by the management of his enemies, as soon as he set his foot on the French shore.

John de la Pole, married the sister of King Edward IV. and so became allied to the Royal blood, and by that means exposed to various misfortunes; and the famous Cardinal Pole, who flourished in the reign of Queen Mary I. descended from that marriage.

Here are also a great many other hospitals, and likewise a work-house and a good free-school.

Though this town, and a small adjacent territory, be generally reckoned in Yorkshire, yet it is really a distinct liberty and county of itself, governed by a mayor, sheriff, twelve aldermen, &c. and sends two members to parliament. The corporation has two swords; one a present from King Richard II. and the other from King Henry VIII. One of which is, on public occasions, carried before the mayor, and a cap of maintenance, and an oar of lignum vitæ, as ensigns of honour; the last also being a badge of his admiralty within the limits of the Humber.

On the further side of the river Hull stand three forts; one called, the North Block-house; the middlemost, the Castle; and the third, the South Block-house; all three garrisoned with soldiers, and built of brick; the South Block-house, which commands the Humber, is in best repair.

The town of Hull was, it is said, in old time, a small village, called *Wike*, till the merchants leaving the Spurne or Sprun, which is the utmost point

point of Holderness, upon the sea, because the sea daily encroached upon their town there, came and seated themselves here, twenty miles higher up the Humber: then came Hull to its growth and riches. There is an old saying:

When Dighton is pull'd down  
Hull shall become a great town.

Dighton was a village close by the town, pulled down in the civil wars.

Farther east from Hull is a little pleasant corporate and mayor town, called Heydon; it is handsome, well-built, and hath a little haven from the sea, which increases daily. It returns two members to parliament.

The sea encroaches much upon the land on all the shore about this town; and it is said, that many large fields, as well as towns, which were formerly known to have been there, are washed away and lost.

History tells us, that a town called Ravensburgh stood somewhere this way; and it is memorable for Baliol King of Scotland, having set out from thence to recover his kingdom against Bruce, and also for the landing of Henry IV. when Duke of Hereford, and the reception he met with there from the English nobility, against Richard II. and yet there are no vestigia or traces of this town to be now met with.

Beverley, seven miles from Hull, and an hundred and eighty-two from London, is a large corporate and borough town, situate about a mile from the river Hull, just at the foot of the Wolds. It is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, recorder, and other officers; and takes its name from the great number of beavers, with which that river once



once abounded. It had formerly a considerable trade by means of a creek, or cut, commonly called *Beverley Beck*, of old made to the town from the river *Hull*, which runs through the *Humber*, for the passage of boats, keels, wherries, hoys, &c. to and from the said town; and it had likewise divers staiths, or landing-places, adjoining to the said Beck, for the lading and unlading of all sorts of merchandize. The town was wont to receive no small advantage from this cut or river; but their being no settled fund to keep it open and cleansing it, and the expence of doing it beyond the ability of the corporation, the said Beck was in time choaked up, and the staiths grew out of repair, an act passed in the year 1727, for cleansing, deepening, and widening the creek, and for repairing the staiths, and for mending the road leading from the said cut to the town; and at the same time providing for the cleansing of the town itself: all which has had a very good effect; for before, the creek lying in the lower part of the town, the filth, dirt, and soil of the town was washed into it, which very much contributed to choak it up.

*Beverley* is the chief town of the *East Riding*, and began to be of great note from the time that *John of Beverley*, Archbishop of *York*, the first Doctor of Divinity in *Oxford*, and preceptor to venerable *Bede*, built a monastery here, and afterwards retired into it himself, where he died in the year 721. King *Athelstan*, having made a vow at the altar of *St. John*, before he proceeded against the *Scots*, in his return in the year 930, instituted a new college of secular canons, and granted to the town many immunities; particularly to the freemen of it, an exemption from all manner of tolls, which was afterwards confirmed by King

King Henry I. and by all or most of the Kings and Queens of this realm to this time, as the mayor's certificate expresses it; which he gives to such freemen as apply for it, in the form following:

Villa de Beverley in Com' Ebor. ff.

" To all persons to whom these presents shall come, A. B. Esq. Mayor of the aforesaid town of Beverley, sendeth greeting.

" KNOW ye, That King Athelstan, of famous memory, did grant, and also King Henry the First did grant and confirm, to the men of the said town of Beverley and afterwards to them, by the name of the governors, or keepers, and burgesses of Beverley, an exemption from all manner of imposts, tolls, tallage, stallage, tunnage, lastage, pickage, wharfage, and of and from all and every the like exactions, payments, and duties, throughout and in all places whatsoever, by sea and land, within all their dominions of England and Wales: which said grants were confirmed by all or most of the succeeding Kings and Queens, to the time of Queen Elizabeth, who confirmed the same to them by the name of the mayor, governors, and burgesses of Beverley, with several grants, which have been also confirmed by all or most of the Kings and Queens of this realm, till this time; as by many and sundry charters, under their great seals, more at large may appear. These are therefore to certify, that C. D. is a Burgess of the said town of Beverley, and is therefore discharged of and from all and every the said exactions, payments, and duties. In testimony whereof the said mayor hath hereunto subscribed his name, and caused the com-  
mon

mon seal of the said town, used in this behalf to be affixed, this — day, &c."

By these and the like privileges, the town keeps up its flourishing condition, notwithstanding it is only eight miles from so powerful a rival as Hull. It has all the advantages, indeed, of a good situation, to invite gentlemen to reside in it; and, being the nearest town of note to the centre of this Riding, the sessions are always held here, in a spacious and beautiful hall, which has a public garden and walks, not inferior to any of their kind in England. In this Hallgarth, as it is called, is an handsome register-office for deeds and wills within this division of the county, which is the only one, besides Middlesex, which has such a registry.

This town returns two members to parliament, and has two weekly markets; one on Wednesday for cattle; the other on Saturdays, for corn. The market place is as large as most, having a beautiful cross, supported by eight free-stone columns, of one intire stone each, erected at the charge of Sir Charles Hotham, and Sir Michael Wharton. In the minster is an old stone seat, upon which was this inscription:

HÆC SEDES LAPIDEA FREED-STOOLE DICTVR,  
i. e. PACIS CATHEDRA; AD QVAM REVS FUGIENDO  
PERVENIENS OMNIMODAM HABET SECVKITATEM.

That is,

This stone seat is called Freed-stoole, or Chair of Peace; to which, if any criminal flee, he shall have full protection.

The common goal a few years ago was re-edified at a considerable expence, the windows well-sashed; and, as if works of piety were more peculiarly adapted

adapted to this place, there are seven alms-houses in the town, and legacies left for two more; besides a workhouse, which cost seven hundred pounds. It has a free-school, to the scholars of which are appropriated two fellowships at St. John's-college in Cambridge, six scholarships and three exhibitions.

Here were formerly four churches, now only two, but the largest and finest parochial ones in the kingdom; viz. the late collegiate church of St. John the Evangelist, still called the minster, and St. Mary's.

In the year 1528, the steeple of St. Mary's church fell in the time of divine service, and beat down part of the church, and killed and wounded divers men, women, and children. These words were cut in wood about one of the uppermost seats in the church: "Pray ye for the Soules of the Men, Women, and Children, &c." When this church was re-edified, one Crosland, who hath a monument there, built two pillars and an half, which is recorded by an inscription as follows:—**XLAND AND HIS WIFE MADE THESE TO PILLORS AND AN HALFE.** Here are divers stories represented in picture on the roof, as particularly the legend of St. Catherine. There is an old inscription on the roof of the north aisle.

Mayn in thy Lyffeng lowfe God.abown all Thing;  
And ever thynk of the Begynning what shall cowme  
of the ending.

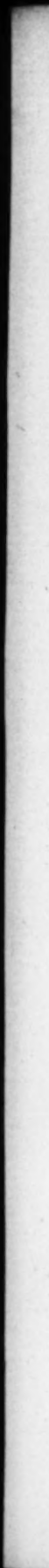
The minster being very ruinous, Mr. Moyser, member of parliament for Beverley, in the year 1708, procured a brief for the repair of it; and, by his sole solicitation among his friends and acquaintance, raised fifteen hundred pounds, to which he and his family contributed very largely. This  
sum,



sum, with eight hundred pounds, the produce of the brief, being put out in the funds, was considerably augmented by the rise of the South-Sea stock in the year 1720, which enabled him to complete his pious design in a most beautiful manner in his life-time; and he had the sole management and direction both of the money and the application of it, being assisted by the advice of that noted architect, Nicholas Hawksmore, Esq. His Majesty, King George I. encouraged this work, not only by a liberal donation of money, but of stone likewise, from the dissolved monastery of St. Mary's in York. Sir Michael Wharton gave in his life-time five hundred pounds, and by will four thousand pounds, as a perpetual fund towards keeping it in repair.

The choir is paved with marble of four different colours, lozenge-wise, appearing cubical to the eye. Over the altar is a large and magnificent wooden arch, curiously engraven, standing upon eight fluted columns of the Corinthian order. The east window is of painted glass, collected out of the several windows of the church; but so artfully joined, that they make throughout one regular and entire figure. The screen between the choir and the nef, was built of Roch-abbey stone, in the Gothic stile, and is deservedly esteemed one of the chief ornaments of the church. The body of the church is paved with the said stone, intermixed with black marble. The pulpit, reading-desk, and cover of the font, are of excellent workmanship: the galleries are beautifully finished, supported by columns of the Doric order. But not the least surprizing thing in this pile, is the north end wall of the great cross aisle, which hung over four feet, and was screwed up to its proper perpendicular, by the ingenious contrivance of Mr. Thornton of York, Joiner, made practicable by a gentleman of Beverley,





ley, and approved of by Mr. Hawkesmore. The admirable machine for this purpose was engraved by Mr. Fourdrinier, and printed for the benefit of his widow, in the year 1739.

On the 13th of September, in the year 1664, upon opening a grave, they met with a vault of square free-stone fifteen feet long, and two feet broad: within which was a sheet of lead four feet long, and in that the ashes, and six beads (whereof three crumbled to dust with a touch; of the three remaining, two were supposed to be cornelian) with three great brass pins, and four large iron nails. Upon the sheet lay a lead plate, with this inscription in capital letters:

Anno ab incarnatione Domini MCLXXXVIII. combusta fuit hæc Ecclesia in mense Septembri, in sequenti nocte post festum Sancti Matthæi apostoli. Et in anno MCXCVII. sexto idus Martii, facta fuit inquisitio reliquiarum Beati Joannis in hoc loco; et inventa sunt hæc ossa in orientali parte sepulchri, et hic recondita; et pulvis cemento mixtus ibidem inventus est, et reconditus.

Thus translated:

In the year of our Lord's incarnation 1188, in September, the night after the festival of St. Matthew the Apostle, this church was consumed by fire; and in the year 1197, on the 10th of March, search was made for the reliques of St. John, in this place; and these bones were found in the eastern part of the sepulchre, and here again deposited; a mixture of dust and mortar was also found in the same place, and again deposited.

A a a

Over



Over this lay a box of lead about seven inches long, six broad, and five deep, wherein were several pieces of bones, mixed with a little dust, and yielding a sweet smell. All these things were carefully re-interred in the middle aisle of the body of the minster, with this inscription in capital letters:

*Reliquiæ eadem effossæ, et ibidem compositiæ,  
fornice lateritio dignabantur xxvi. die mensis  
Martii Anno Domini mcccxxvi. v. quando  
tesselatum Ecclesiæ hujus pavementum primo  
fuit instauratum.*

Thus Englished :

The same reliques which were dug up and replaced, were adorned with an arch of brick-work, on the 26th day of March 1726, viz. when the tessellated pavement of this church was first repaired.

Over it, directly upon the roof, is an inscription, to shew where the reliques are interred.

In this church are several monuments of the Percies, Earls of Northumberland, who have added a little chapel to the choir. On the right side of the altar-place stands the Freed-stool, mentioned above, made of one entire stone, and said to have been removed from Dunbar in Scotland, with a well of water behind it. At the upper end of the body of the church, next the choir, hangs an antient table with the picture of St. John the Evangelist (from whom the church is named) and of King Athelstan, the founder of it, and between them this distich :

Als

Als free make I thee,  
As heart can wish, or egh can see.

King Charles I. coming into the church, and reading these verses, is reported to have added,

Even so free be,

In the body of the church of St. John stands an antient monument, which they call the Virgins tomb; because two virgins, sisters, lay buried there, who gave the town a piece of land, into which any freeman may put three milch kine from Lady-day to Michaelmas. At the lower end of the body of the church stands a fine large font of agate-stone.

The mayor and aldermen being trustees for the revenues granted for the support of the minster by King Edward VI. and Queen Elizabeth, the greatest part of those revenues was applied towards defraying the expences of the parish of St. Mary, and of the corporation; so that not a fourth part of the income was laid out in the repair of the minster; which occasioned its running to decay. This misapplication Mr. Moyser put a stop to; and now the whole revenue, raised by him from an hundred and fifty to two hundred pounds a year, is applied solely to the repair of the fabric.

The principal trade of Beverley is making malt, oatmeal, and tanned leather; but the poor people mostly support themselves by working bone-lace, which of late has met with particular encouragement; the children being maintained at school to learn to read, and to work this sort of lace. The clothing trade was formerly followed in this town; but *Leland* tells us, that even in his time it was very much decayed.

They

They have several fairs, but one more especially remarkable, called the Mart, beginning about two days before Ascension-day, and kept in a street leading to the Minster Garth, called Londoners-street; for the Londoners bring down their wares, and furnish the country tradesmen by wholesale.

About a mile from Beverley to the east, in a pasture belonging to the town, is a kind of Spaw, though they say it cannot be judged by the taste, whether it comes from any mineral, or not; yet, taken inwardly, it is a great drier, and, bathed in, dries scorbutic scurf, and all sorts of scabs; and also very much helps against the king's evil.

From Bawtry, in the great Northern road, you turn off to

*Howded*, an hundred and seventy-nine miles and an half from London. It is situate on the north side of the river Ouse, and is a pretty large town, subject to great inundations of the river, occasioned by the freshes which come down from the Wolds; and has been so ever since the year 1390, when the Bishop of Durham built a tall steeple to the church, that in case of any sudden inundation, the people might save themselves in it. And there have been within these few years, several commissions for repairing its banks.

Here is a very considerable fair or mart held for inland trade, which lasts for eight days, to which several wholesale tradesmen from London resort: but what this town is chiefly famous for, is the birth or residence of one of our ancient historians, Roger de Haveden, or Howden, a monk of the abbey of this place. Mr. *Camden's* continuator says, that this town stands upon the Derwent, but he is mistaken, as it is above three miles south-east from it. The Derwent was made navigable (pursuant to an act of parliament the first of Queen Anne) to the Ouse.

The

The Bishop of Durham has a temporal jurisdiction in this part of the county called Howden-shire.

*Wighton*, two miles distant from Howden, is a small, but ancient market-town, seated on the banks of the little river called Fowlness. Some Roman, as well as British, antiquities have been found here.

From Howden to *Pocklington* is six miles and a half, it is a market town, but a very inconsiderable one, and has nothing materially worthy of observation.

*Hornsey*, about fifteen miles from Hull, is a small town, almost surrounded with an arm of the sea. The steeple here is a notable sea-mark, but is much fallen to ruin. A whole street here is said to have been washed away by the sea; as was likewise a village a little to the north, called Hide, and many other villages on the coast.

*Kilham*, a little north-west from Hornsey, is a small market town of but little note. About two miles distance from it, is

*Burton Agnes*, a village at the edge of the Wolds, forty miles from York, and six from Bridlington; which village formerly belonged to the Somervilles, and by an heiress of that family descended to the Griffyths; and Sir Henry Griffyths, at the latter end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, began a stately brick house, which was finished by his widow, and is greatly admired by Sir William Dugdale. It is now in the possession of Sir Griffyth Boynton, Bart. to whose family it came by marriage, and it has been their principal seat ever since. The church here is remarkably neat. It was repaired in 1727, by Sir Griffyth Boynton, the third Baronet of his family, and contains several antient monuments of his ancestors, the Somervilles, and Griffyths, and a very



very elegant one by Cheere, in memory of the late Sir Griffyth, who died October 18, 1768.

This lordship hath a common of some thousand acres of land, extending to the lordship of Barmston, where stood formerly another good seat of the Boyntons, to whom it came by marriage in the reign of Richard III. The name of the Boytons is local from Boynton (anciently Borrington) a small village of the Woulds, three miles from Bridlington, of which Bartholomew de Boynton was seized in 1060.

*Burlington*, or *Bridlington*, two hundred and eight miles and an half from London, is a large, populous, and wealthy market town, situate on a creek of the sea, and enjoying a good trade. The harbour here is a very good shelter for ships against the north-east and north-west winds, and the quay very convenient to load and unload them. Several acts of parliament have passed for the repair and amendment of the harbour, particularly the last, which passed in 1723, since which it has been greatly improved and amended. It is much frequented by a number of colliers.

These encouragements and improvements have rendered Burlington much more considerable than formerly, so that it now has a custom-house with proper officers appointed to secure the duty; and is considered as a member of the port of Hull, in conjunction with which it has contributed not a little to the improvement of land in the East Riding.

Near Bridlington lies the well known promontory, called Flamborough-head, which bending into the sea, forms Bridlington-bay. This promontory takes its name from the old British word *Flam*, i. e. a bright light or flame, and not far from it is a very large ditch, which the ancient  
Earls

Earls of Holderness threw up as a boundary to their estates. It is still called Earls Dyke.

North of Burlington, is *Hurmanby*, an inconsiderate town, that has lost its market.

### The NORTH RIDING

**EXTENDS** along the coast from Robin Hood's Bay, as far as Whitley, being bounded on the north by the river Tees; it runs from the sea in a narrow track of near sixty miles, as far as Westmoreland, and is bounded by the south and west with the Derwent and Ure, which part it from the East and West Ridings. The soil in many parts is very indifferent, it being rocky and mountainous, but the bottoms and vallies are not unfruitful. The hills afford great store of lead, pit-coal, and lapis calaminaris: and in some places it produces marble, jet, allum, and copperas. The chief allum works were carried on here by the late Duke and Dukes of Buckingham, at Whitby, where was the greatest plenty of its mines. The jet is found in several places by the sea side, in the chinks and cliffs of the rocks.

From Kilham in the East Riding, the road leads to

*Scarborough*, two hundred and twenty-one miles from London. It is an ancient corporated town, seated in the form of a crescent on a rock, near the sea, which gives it a romantic appearance. West of the town stood an old ruinous castle and wall, founded by William Le Grosse, in the reign of King Stephen, afterwards rebuilt and enlarged by King Henry II. In it Gavestone, the favourite of that King, endeavoured to screen himself from the fury of the English nobility, who were incensed against him, but was besieged and taken. In the reign

reign of King Richard II. the French and Spaniards, under the command of one Mercer, a Scotsman, making a descent at this place, Philpot, the illustrious Lord Mayor of London, fitted out a fleet at his own expence, and pursuing the enemy, took several of their ships. In the days of Queen Mary, one Stafford seized the castle, but was dispossessed of it again within less than a week; and in those of Charles I. this fortification, with that of its stately tower, was demolished.

This town being built on a steep rock, and the declivity of a lofty hill, commands a most extensive prospect of the ocean. The summit of the hill contains about eighteen or twenty acres of meadow ground. This place is greatly resorted to by numbers of the nobility and gentry, on account of the medicinal virtues of the Spaw waters. They were first discovered by one Mrs. Ferrow, about an hundred and fifty years ago, then an inhabitant of Scarborough; and are said to possess the like virtues as those of Pyrmont in Germany. They are reckoned cathartic and diuretic, and are apparently tinged with a collection of mineral salts, as vitriol, allum, iron, and perhaps sulphur.

The great concourse of people here in the season for drinking the waters, has been the occasion of many new buildings to be erected, which are still increasing, so that now it nearly rivals Bath itself; having assemblies, public balls, &c. for the amusement of the company who resort there.

In December 1737, an unfortunate accident happened here, by which this famous Spaw had like to have been lost. It will not therefore be unnecessary to give a particular account of it.

The Spaw, as to its situation, lay south from the town, on the sands fronting the sea, to the east; under an high cliff to the back of it, west; the  
top





[illegible]

top of the cliff, being above the high water level fifty-four yards, and all about a quarter of a mile from the town.

The staith, or wharf, adjoining to the spaw-house, was a large body of stone, bound by timbers, and was a fence against the sea, for the security of the house. It was seventy-six feet long, and fourteen feet high, and in weight by computation, two thousand four hundred and sixty-three tons. The house and buildings were upon a level with the staith; at the north end of which, and near adjoining to it, upon a small rise above the level sands, and at the foot of the stairs leading up to the top of the said staith, were the spaw wells.

On Wednesday, December 28, in the morning, a great crack was heard from the cellar of the spaw-house; and, upon search, the cellar was found rent; but, at that time, no farther notice was taken of it.

The night following, another crack was heard; and in the morning the inhabitants were surprized to see the strange posture it stood in, and got several gentlemen to view it, who, being of opinion the house could not stand long, advised them to get out their goods; but they still continued in it.

On Thursday following, between two and three in the afternoon, another crack was heard, and the top of the cliff behind it rent two hundred and twenty-four yards in length, and thirty-six in breadth, and was all in motion, slowly descending; and so continued till dark. The ground thus rent contained about an acre of pasture land, and had cattle then feeding upon it, and was on a level with the main land, but sunk near seventeen yards perpendicular. The sides of the cliff nearest the spaw stood as before, but were rent and broken in many places, and forced forward to the sea. The ground, when sunk, lay upon a level, and the

B b b

cattle

cattle next morning were still feeding on it, the main land being as a wall on the west, and some part of the side of the cliff as a wall to the east; but the whole, to view, gave such a confused prospect, as could hardly be described.

The rent of the top of the cliff aforesaid, from the main land, was two hundred and twenty-four yards. The rent continued from each end, down the side of the cliff, to the sands; was measured on the sands from one end to the other, an hundred and sixty-eight yards; to wit, sixty-eight south of the staith and spaw wells, and an hundred to the north of the spaw.

As the ground sunk, the earth, or sand, on which the people used to walk under the cliff, rose upwards out of its natural position, for above an hundred yards in length, on each side of the staith, north and south; and was in some places six, and in others seven yards above its former level. The spaw wells rose with it; but as soon as it began to rise, the water at the spaw well ceased running, and was gone.

The ground thus risen was twenty-six yards broad; the staith, which was computed at two thousand four hundred and sixty-three tons, rose intire and whole, twelve feet higher than its former position (but rent a little in the front) and was forced forwards to the sea twenty yards.

The most reasonable account then given for this phænomenon, and the occasion of the destruction of the staith, and spaw-house, and the loss for some time of the spaw-spring, is as follows:

When this staith, or wharf, was lately rebuilt, (it being thrown down by the violence of the sea) Mr. Vincent, engineer for the building of the new pier at Scarborough, was desired to build this staith at the spaw; and, digging a trench to lay the foundation thereof, with great difficulty cleared it  
of

of water; and, when he had done it could, at several parts thereof, very easily thrust his stick or cane up to the handle; from whence it is concluded, that all the earth under the staith was of a porous, spongy, swampy nature, and was much the same below the foundation of the spaw-house, and all under the sides of the cliff adjoining, as well north as south.

Allowing this to be fact; the solid earth, sinking on the top of the cliff, as afore mentioned (which was of so vast a weight, as by computation to amount to two hundred and sixty-one thousand three hundred and sixty tons) pressing gradually upon, and into the swampy, boggy earth beneath it, would of course, and did, raise the earth and sands, as before noticed, and so effect the mischief we have particularized.

But, very luckily for the town, after a diligent search, and clearing away the ruins, as we may say, they found again the spaw-spring; and, on trial, had the pleasure to find the water rather bettered than impaired by the disaster. And now the whole is in a more flourishing condition than ever.

In the year 1732, an act of parliament passed to enlarge the harbour here, which was carried into execution, having gained six feet depth of water thereby, so that now vessels of great burden can enter into it. This has not a little increased the trade of this town, and they have such a prodigious plenty of cod, herrings, and most other sorts of fish, that the inhabitants are not only enabled to supply York, and the neighbouring places therewith, but they likewise send considerable quantities abroad. Scarborough also deals largely in the coal trade; and this port and Yarmouth, affording the only shelter for ships, on this side of England, in case of a storm; its harbour is maintained by a duty laid upon that commodity.

At



At this town is an hospital for the reception of seamen's widows, and its government is under the direction of a recorder, bailiffs, and common-council.

Between Scarborough and Whitby, is *Robin Hood's Bay*, and there is a commodious fishery, and good anchoring in six or eight fathoms of water, and the land high; so that it might be very serviseable to navigation, if it was not quite laid open to the east wind, by which means ships seeking refuge there, might be exposed to great danger.

At York the road divides, we shall at present follow that branch that leads to

*New Malton*, two hundred and seventeen miles from London. It is situate on the river Derwent, and takes its first appellation to distinguish it from the *Old Malton*, which was burnt by Thurstan, Archbishop of York, in King Stephen's cause, against Eustace, the lord of it, who had betrayed part of this country into the hands of the Scots; but Eustace being afterwards received into favour, rebuilt it, and it has been ever since called *New Malton*. Here was formerly a famous abbey, and a castle; the ruins of which are still to be seen.

New Malton is well built and inhabited, and has two weekly markets, which are held by prescription; for it is not incorporated. It is reckoned the best market in the county for horses, cattle and provisions; and is noted for utensils in husbandry. Here are three handsome parish churches, and a good stone bridge over the river Derwent; and sends two members to parliament. Near this town is a well, whose water is said to have the same virtue as that of Scarborough.

*Pickering*, two hundred and twenty-five miles from London, is the next town in the road to Whitby. It is a pretty large and well built town,  
with

with a well furnished market, and belongs to the Duchy of Lancaster, having jurisdiction over several neighbouring villages, called *The Honour of Pickering*.

This town is situate on the west side of a wild hilly country, and a forest, which is within the liberty of the town, and called *Pickering Forest*. There are the ruins of a castle upon a hill here, still visible, by which it seems to have been formerly a fortified place.

*Whisby*, two hundred and forty-seven miles from London; is situate at the influx of the little river Esk into the sea, and has an excellent harbour, which was repaired by virtue of two acts of parliament passed in the first and seventh of Queen Anne; and by another in 1733, passed to preserve, continue, and keep in repair the said harbour, but a bank of sand, which has been gathering about the west pier, being found a great inconvenience to the entrance of the harbour, rendering it narrow and difficult, another act passed in the eighth of George II. to lengthen the west pier, which was the opinion of the best judges, as the only means to remedy this obstruction.

Many coins have been found at this place, which was anciently called *Streenball*, and is said to have formerly contained a monastery, in which Oswy, King of Northumberland, held a council in 663, to determine the controversy, between those who kept Easter after the British manner, and those who kept it after the Roman manner, which Augustine the monk had lately introduced. After the party for the first had spoken, the other answering, insisted they kept Easter after the manner of St. Peter, on whom Christ promised to build his church, and who had the keys of heaven. Upon which the King asked, if it was true that Christ had spoken so to St. Peter? which the adverse party allowing,

allowing, the King swore a great oath, " That he would not disoblige this Porter of Heaven, lest, when he came to the gates he should remember him ;" and so established the celebration of Easter after the Roman manner.

In the harbour a number of good ships are built, which are reckoned the best for the coal trade. Near the town are some allum mines, and a spaw : here is also a custom-house, and belonging to the harbour are near two hundred sail of ships.

In the year 1710 a storm happened here, the loss sustained by which amounted to upwards of forty thousand pounds.

Several curious stones have been found here, at the foot of some rocks, which are naturally as round as a bullet ; in which, when broken, stony serpents have been found, for the most part headless. These are generally looked upon as a *Lusus Natura*, but with greater reason ascribed to the effects of the deluge. These rocks are at the east side of the harbour, nearly perpendicular, and about an hundred and eighty feet above the level of the sea.

The foot of these cliffs is washed by the sea at high water, but left quite dry at low water, for a considerable breadth. The shore here is very little sandy ; it is an hard, smooth, and flat rock, called by the inhabitants, the *Scarr* ; and is in a manner, overspread with loose, rugged, large stones, scattered about in great disorder and confusion.

Returning to York, another road branches off to *Helmsley*, a tolerable well-built town, two hundred and twenty-one miles from London. The houses are chiefly of stone, and the roofs covered with slate ; there are many small towns in this part, but none remarkable, except that Rydell is pleasantly situated in a fine fruitful vale, wherein are twenty-three parish churches.

*Stokesley,*

*Stokesley*, two hundred and thirty-eight miles and an half from London, is another small market-town, of no particular note; it is situated a few miles east of Yarum, near the source of the river Levan.

*Yarum*, two hundred and thirty-seven miles and an half from London, is a small, but incorporated town, situated near the influx of the above river into the Tees. The town has been formerly of great note; however, it seems now to be a little revived, and carries on a pretty trade by water, for lead, corn, and butter, with London. Here is a very good and well built bridge.

On the left of this road runs another from York, and passes through *Thirsk*, an incorporated town, two hundred and twenty miles from London; the market here is not very considerable, but it returns two members to parliament.

*Northallerton*, two hundred and twenty-nine miles and an half from London, is situate in a little track of rich and cultivated land, called Allertonshire, and watered by the river Wyke. It sends two members to parliament, and is incorporated. The town principally consists of one street, about the length of half a mile; the houses are well-built, chiefly of brick, and tiled. The church is old, with a large tower in the middle. Here is a good market, and the greatest beast-fair in England is said to be held here. In the market-place is a remarkable vine, which spreads itself at least forty yards in length.

A bloody battle was fought here in the reign of King Stephen, between David, King of Scotland, and Archbishop Thurstan, who was lieutenant in these parts for King Stephen, and was called *the Battle of the Standard*, which was never used to be erected, but when the kingdom was in imminent danger. The Bishop prevailed, and routed the Scots, though Henry, King David's son, kept the field



field of battle with a band of hardy foldiers, after the bulk of the army was fled, with their King after them; and fought valiantly till he was overpowered and obliged to follow his father.

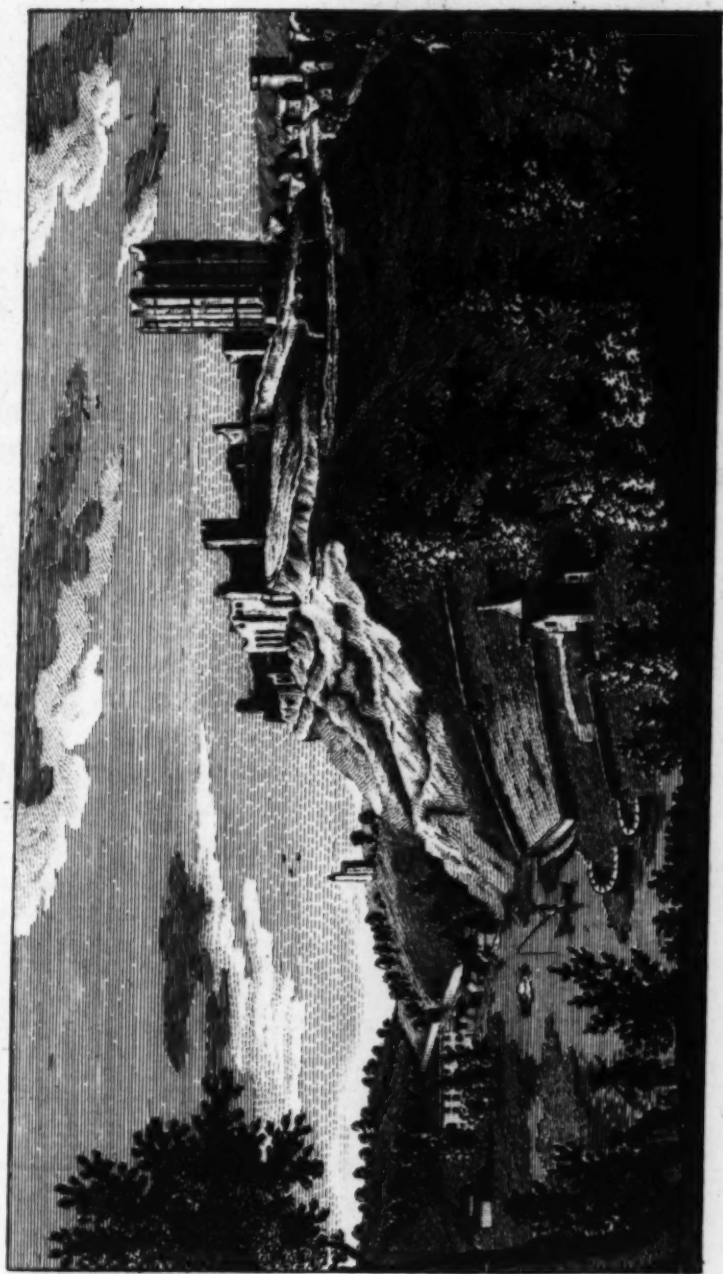
From Boroughbridge, in the West-Riding, the road continues to *Richmond*, two hundred and thirty one miles from London. It takes its name from its situation upon a hill or mount, fruitful, though the country about it is rocky and barred. It likewise gives name to Richmond's line, the district in which it lies.

In the time of King Richard II. this town was annexed to the Duchy of Lancaster, and so continues to this day. A castle was formerly built here by Earl Edwin, the tower of which is still to be seen, as is likewise the steeple of an old monastery. It is a borough, governed by a mayor, recorder, aldermen, &c. and holds pleas in all kinds of action. Here is a good market-place, and three gates, which lead to three different suburbs. It is well-built, all of stone, and some houses of free stone, and sends two members to parliament.

In the year 1732, Mr. Wharton, of Newcastle, agent to his Grace the late Duke of Richmond, by ordering several places to be dug very deep, discovered the draw bridge and moat belonging to Richmond-castle, which were of very curious workmanship.

The chief manufactory carried on here is knit-yarn stockings for servants, and the ordinary class of people. The inhabitants are industrious; for every family is employed that way, both great and small. This trade extends itself into Westmoreland, or rather from that county hither.

*Bedal*, is a little town in this part of the county; it stands upon a rivulet that runs into the Swale, near Gatenby, but is chiefly of note for its living, said to be worth five hundred pounds per annum, and for its being the thoroughfare of the Roman causey,



*Richmond Castle, Yorkshire.*



causey, which leads up through Richmond to Barnard's castle, and is for twenty miles together called Leeming-lane. All this division called Richmondshire, is more or less full of jockies and dealers in horses, here being, 'tis said, the best hunting and road horses in the world.

The village Catterick, is an obvious derivation from Caractonium, a city of great note in the time of the Romans, and was so called from a cataract in the river Swale, there being still a great fall of water just by it, where the river Swale runs among the rocks. At the south-end of the bridge, according to tradition, mass was formerly said every day in the chapel, at eleven o'clock, for the benefit of travellers that would stop to hear it. This once great city is now but a small village, remarkable only for its situation on a Roman highway that crosses the river here, and for great heaps of rubbish, carrying plain marks of antiquity, near Catterickswort, and the manor-house of Burghall. Other marks of the antiquity and great extent of this city, are a huge mount eastward, near the river, with the appearance of four bulwarks, cast up to a considerable height. And at Thornburgh in Brough, and Brampton upon Swale, on the opposite side of it, have been found Roman coins; and near to the farm-house, called Thornbury, on a hill, is a level plot of ground of about ten acres, in which several Roman coins have been dug up, one particularly of gold, with the inscriptions,

NERO IMP. CÆSAR ET JUPITER CUSTOS.

Within this compass there has also been found bases of old pillars, and a brick floor, with a leaden pipe passing perpendicularly down into the earth, which some think was the place where sacrifice was performed to their infernal gods; and that the

C c c

blood



blood descended by those pipes. A brass pot was also discovered in the reign of King Charles I. almost full of Roman coins, most of them copper, but some silver. The pot was of an unusual sort of composition, would hold about twenty gallons, and was bought for eight pounds, from the sequestration of Sir John Lawson's estate, in the late civil wars. A vault was also discovered in the year 1703, which had five urns in it, and, not long after, an altar, with an ancient Latin inscription.

Near Richmond is the monastery of St. Agatha ; it is situated in the village of Eastby. Roaldus, the constable, is said to have been the founder, but at what time, or what place he was constable, is not mentioned. *Tanner*, who places the foundation in 1151, called him the constable of Richmond-castle. We shall digress a little to relate the conscientious and resolute behaviour of Richard Lord Scroope, Lord High Chancellor in the reign of Richard II. it being at that time under the patronage of that nobleman.

“ King Richard, during his minority, and at the time when he was under the tuition of divers governors appointed by parliament, had made a very considerable and improper grant to one of his favourites, to this the Chancellor refused to affix the great seal, alledging the King's youth and inexperience. Richard, provoked at his denial, sent for the seal, which Scroope refused to deliver, as holding it not of the King, but of his parliament ; at which, that Prince, being farther incensed, went to him in person, and required his obedience ; whereupon the chancellor delivered up the seals to him, declaring, that although he would in all things, as a loyal subject, bear him true allegiance, he would no longer serve him in any public post, and accordingly retired to his estate in the country, where he spent the remainder of his days and much of his

his fortune, in acts of piety and devotion. This monastery at present belongs to the heirs of the late Thomas Smith, Esq. of Gray's Inn."

*Wensley Dale*, in this part is a rich and fertile valley, well covered with delicate green grass, and stocked with vast herds of cattle, and in some parts produces lead ore. And here that remarkable man Henry Jenkins was born, in the year 1500 and died in 1670, being then an hundred and sixty-nine years of age; there are no registers of so long a date; and therefore his age must be guessed at by other circumstances which occurred on questions being put to him: for, 1. on being asked, "What Kings he remembered?" he answered, after a little pause, "That he thought himself about an hundred and sixty-two or an hundred and sixty-three years of age, and that he could remember the battle of *Plowden* (meaning *Flodden*) *Field*, when he fought against the Scots, in the reign of Henry VIII." He then was asked, "Was the King himself there?" he replied, "No; he was in France, and the Earl of Surry was General." He was then asked, "How old he was then?" he said, "About twelve years old." That battle was fought September 19, 1513, King Henry being then at Tournay.

2dly. There were four or five of the same parish at that time, of an hundred years old, or very near it, who all declared, that they never knew him any other than an old man; and that he told them, he was butler to Lord Conyers. The last of that name died without issue, 3. and 4. Philip and Mary, A. D. 1557.

3dly. He went often to the assizes on foot, and was used as a witness in other courts, whose records speaks largely of his age. In the Chancery he was sworn to the remembrance of above an hundred and forty years; and as much after at York assizes.

In

In the King's Remembrance Office in the Exchequer, a record saith, " That Henry Jenkins, labourer, aged an hundred and fifty-seven years, deposed as a witness, in 1665; and to confirm his age, divers ancient men, who were witnesses, swore that he was a very old man when they first knew him.

He was, for the last century of his life, a fisherman, and used to wade and swim in the rivers even after he was an hundred years old, and lived upon a very coarse diet. In some of his last years, being unable to work at his trade, he went a begging to gentlemen's houses, who used to relieve him chearfully, as a great curiosity. He could neither write nor read, a still greater confirmation of his great age, as what he reported was from strength of memory. Two years after, he was able to bind sheaves after the reapers, and had his sight and hearing to the very last.

*Joreval, Jervaux, or Gervis Abbey*, in this dale, was founded in the year 1145, and successively called, the *Abbey of Fors, Wansley-dale, and Charity*. It was likewise from the river running near it, sometimes named *Joreval*.

The following description of its present state we shall take from the words of the ingenious *Thomas Naude*, Esq. author of the well known poem, called *Wensley-Dale*.

" The remains of the abbey of Joreval stand three miles east of Middleham, and about two hundred paces to the left of the highway leading to that place; they are not, in their present state, very visible from the road; the buildings being much reduced, and also intercepted by trees growing in the fences. The name is evidently of Norman extraction, its import simply that of Euredale-abbey, being situated near the river Eure, antiently termed the Jor or Youre.

" The

“ The external wall, or boundary, which cannot be less than a mile in circuit, seems to have included pasturage for the accommodation of the monks : a part of the north fence continues in its original form, and is now (1772) in tolerable preservation ; but the remainder is much dismantled : however, the stones of the fence are well bedded, and appear to have undergone no little labour from the chissel.

“ Of all the ruins to be seen in this part of the north, these have suffered the most complete demolition, considering the ample size of the building. The profusion of deep ivy that covers the walls ; the bulbous rooted trees, with their distorted trunks, issuing from the chasms of the pile ; the nodding fragments, and the already prostrate heaps of matter, every where intermixed with briars, thorns, and the most sorrowful looking weeds, make the whole, at once, seemingly, too melancholy, even for the residence of bats and owls : while, on the one hand, you perceive the long depending mass crumbling to decay ; on the other, you see the once elevated arch, just emerging from the surface and sinking to interment ; probably, in a little time to be no more seen.

“ The sepulchral grounds, allotted the abbey, has consisted of two parts, for the inferior and superior order of persons ; the first, adjoining the abbey, is now a meadow ; the other, of less dimensions, has been a square, within the building, of about half an acre, and since occupied as an orchard, or garden.

“ Here it was customary to bury in stone coffins ; some of which have been, through the avarice of farmers, digged up and converted into swine-troughs ; where, among the bones and ashes,  
were



were found cloth and ribbands, retaining their original colours: however, this violation of the only remaining furniture of the dead have been put a stop to, by the more decent ideas of the gentleman who superintends the estate; and there at present only appears the lid of one stone coffin above ground, now swarding over; and on which is faintly traced the figure of an antique sword, with this inscription in antient characters, but without a date: "Tumba Gilberti de Waton."

"Nearest the road within the ancient precincts of the abbey, appears the gate-way, and a few deserted walls of a mansion, most probably erected from the ruins of the monastery. The greatest part of the materials of this edifice was sold about thirty years ago, by order of the then noble owner. Partly the same fate attended the abbey, whose stones have been occasionally employed to erect fences, farm-houses, and the attendant conveniences; whilst a part, also, has been appropriated to the repairs of the road; a person in the neighbourhood remembring to have seen the highway strewed with fragments of inscriptions; a miserable prostitution; the sight of which would be sufficient to draw tears from the eyes of an antiquary.

"Thus the traveller laments the mutilated sculptures of Greece and Rome, where the tasteless spoiler applies the venerable materials of the most consummate art, to his own paltry erection; and that with such unheeding disregard as to invert the very ornament or legend, once the glory of its age and country.

"The ruins of Jervaux abbey, together with very large possessions contiguous to the Eure, belong to Lord Bruce, to whom it descended from the Earl of Aylesbury."

*Bolton Castle*, in this part of the county, was built by William Lord Scroope, High Chancellor  
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in the time of Richard II. It is of a quadrilateral figure, whose greatest length runs from north to south; but, on measuring it, no two of its sides are equal. It has four right-lined towers, but neither their faces nor flanks are equal, each of the former measuring on the north and south sides forty-seven feet and an half, to six feet. In the centre between the two towers, both on the north and south sides, is a large projecting right angled buttress or turret. That on the north side is fifteen feet in front; its west side is fourteen, and its east side sixteen feet; on the south side the front is twelve feet, and on east nine, and its west side twelve feet. As these buttresses stand at right angles to the building, and their flank or sides being thus unequal, neither the north or south curtains are one continued right line.

The grand entrance was in the east curtain, near the southernmost tower; there were besides the three other doors, one on the north, and one on the west sides. The walls are seven feet thick and nine high. It was lighted by several stages of windows. *Leland* says, the chief lodging rooms were in this tower, and that here was a fine park walled in with stone.

Mary Queen of Scots was confined in this castle for two years, being brought here the 13th of July 1568. She was removed from hence to Tetbury Castle in Staffordshire. It was gallantly defended for King Charles I. against the parliamentary forces by Col. Scroope; but, at length, November 5, 1645, surrendered on honourable conditions.

This castle belongs to the Duke of Bolton. The east and north sides are now mostly in ruins, but the west part is now in good repair, and occupied by two families.

About three miles east from the castle stands the mansion-house of the noble family of the Paulets; it was built by the Marquis of Winchester, first Duke of Bolton, in the year 1678. From this house

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is a most noble view of Wensley-dale, with the river Eure running through it; the west side of the mansion is decorated with avenues, adapted for the convenience of wheel-carriages. The fields before the hall are laid in conformity both to use and pleasure, a blended scene of unembarrassed pasture, wood, copse, intervening streams, and scattered trees, supplies the place of formality and studded art; while, at a distance, a view of bold and gentle inequalities, partly naked and partly clothed, in which an extensive park is included, agreeably presents itself, terminating the prospect with great distinctness, at the distance of a few miles. The back ground consists of a climax of hills, which not only serves to defend the pile, but also the whole dale from the rude assaults of the north wind.

We must not omit Carlisle-House, or Castle-Howard, a magnificent seat built by the late Earl of Carlisle, at Hinderskil, upon the spot of ground where the old castle stood, in the middle of a wood. The house is of a vast extent; and though it makes a fine appearance at a distance, yet it will not bear a critical examination of the architecture, when viewed near. There goes a story, that the architect was so sensible of his error in one of the fronts, that he would have fain have persuaded the Earl to pull it down again. The whole being then not near finished.

*End of the Fourth Volume.*



